

THE SWAN



JUNE, 1957 - No. 23

THE SWAN

The Magazine of Slough Grammar School

No. 23

June, 1957

Editorial

THE year 1957 heralds the coming of age of the Slough Grammar School as such, for in 1936 the boys and girls of the Slough Secondary School parted company and settled in their present homes. As a contribution to the celebrations, it was decided that prizes should be given for the best entries to *The Swan* in prose, verse and art. Unfortunately, even the incentive of a guinea prize in each section has not been sufficient to awaken certain parts of the School from their traditional apathy.

The past school year has contained the usual round of social activities, the results of which will be reflected in the following pages, but certain of them deserve a special mention here. The most memorable for many years was the outstanding success of the Dramatic Society's production of "The Merchant of Venice", which more than justified the expense involved in the complete reshaping and refitting of the stage. Great credit is due to Mr. Purvis and his valiant team. Similarly, Mr. Gibbs must be congratulated for the fine Gym Display, as well as for his zealous guidance of the School's athletes who last season showed themselves in fine fettle. Success has also crowned the many extra-mural activities, which have enjoyed a very keen following. The visits to the Lake District and to West Wales by senior members have proved once again their educational and vocational value, extending knowledge beyond the curriculum, and providing the viewpoint for a truer perspective of life. Less conspicuous, less ostentatious work has been done as a sound basis for these and many other ventures which may have no official recognition in the annals of the School. Without the sincere efforts of both staff and boys for many a long hour, however, no happy results could have been achieved. It is to the workers behind the scenes that the School owes its life. The smooth running of any society is usually due to the anguish of secretaries, the turmoil of cooks, the heart-aches of planners and the arguments of friends. It is for us, the schoolboys of today and the men of tomorrow to begin to bear a full part of the ultimately pleasureable burden of the background activities so rarely appreciated.

In the School Notes will be found names we have welcomed and names we have bidden farewell: the former have changed to personalities, the latter to memories, but all leave their mark. It is the sincere hope of the Editors that *The Swan* represents truly the subsequent personality of the School.

J. R. LITTLE,

R. F. COOPER,

J. E. MORGAN.

School Notes

WE TENDER OUR gratitude and appreciation to Alderman A. E. Ward for his great services to the School as Chairman of Governors, and express our real regrets that he has found it necessary to resign because of pressure of other duties.

We welcome Mr. J. T. Ireland as the new Chairman of Governors, and hope that he will have a long and happy term of office. We also greet Messrs. E. Luff, F. N. Sparkes, and W. J. Tong, as Governors of the School.

During the year we have received four new members to the teaching staff. In July Mr. D. Wilson came to take charge of school music, and Mr. A. J. Rowland joined the Mathematics Department. In September Mr. C. B. Chapman joined the Science Department, and Mr. R. T. Spence the History Department.

After three years on our staff Mr. B. A. A. Knight left us in July to seek fresh experience in Canadian and American schools. We remember him with gratitude for his enthusiastic work in many departments of school activities. We offer hearty congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Knight (*née* Wood), who were married at Datchet on July 28th, and sailed together for the New World.

Our warm congratulations also to Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Rowland, who celebrated their wedding on the 22nd December.

From France we have the happy news of M. J. Lautaud's marriage last summer, and we send our good wishes to him and Mde. Lautaud.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Redgrave, on the birth of a second son, to Mr. and Mrs. Street, a second son, and to Mr. and Mrs. Colombo, a daughter.

During the past year five earlier members of the School have been serving as officers in Cyprus: David Brecknell, George Turnbull, William Morgan, Donald Wells and Brian Warwick.

We are very glad to record M. G. Tournet's passing the examination for C.A.P.E.S., and wish him success in *agrégation*.

Mr. N. G. Lynch, B.A., M.Ed., Principal of Drummond High School, New Brunswick, visited us on November 20th, and was most interested to see over an English grammar school.

We are grateful to Mr. H. Liddiard of Fulmer Research for the interesting and informative lecture he gave on December 13th to our Sixth Form scientists.

R. Keenan gained further distinction by reaching the final in the A.C.F. Southern Great Britain boxing competition during the autumn term.

The invitation to our Sixth Form from the Head Master of Eton College to the Literary Brains Trust held last November was greatly appreciated and the evening enjoyed.

It has been very pleasant to receive visits from so many former scholars during the year. More than fifty of them have called in and attended our functions.

Congratulations and good wishes to Mr. and Mrs. John Lewis, recently married.

Christmas greetings were received from M. Lautaud père, who will be remembered by all who went to Aix en Provence.

We are most grateful to Miss Crawford for arranging a further series of dancing classes for members of our Sixth Forms.

Thanks and praise to the school choir, which practices every morning at 8.30!

It was ironical that our change-over to oil fired central heating coincided with the Suez crisis.

Parties from the School have visited the Memorial Theatre at Stratford-on-Avon to see *Othello* and *The Merchant of Venice*.

We have been pleased to welcome for teaching practice Mr. C. J. Leeke and Mr. A. D. Hollingsworth, from the Universities of London and Reading respectively.

Congratulations to Geoffrey Brecknell on gaining the Siemens' Prize at the Royal College of Science, London, and on his summer trip to Sweden.

The ready and regular help given by wives of the staff in school activities is very greatly appreciated.

A large party of senior boys attended a one day conference on "The Approach to Self-government within the British Commonwealth."

Large parties of Sixth Formers went to the C.E.W.C. Lectures, and to two lectures on aviation meteorology given by the Royal Meteorological Society.

On October 3rd, Mr. Neill from the Imperial Institute, talked to senior boys about the West Indies.

The School is very gratified with the new stage and its furnishings.

On April 3rd nine members of the Sixth Form were privileged to attend at the Royal Festival Hall to hear his Royal Highness Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, talk about his recent tour.

The year has seen a pleasing development in inter-school house and society meetings and socials in co-operation with the High School, and to recall our joint foundation.

Parties of senior boys have made expeditions to Dale Fort and Juniper Hall Field Centres, and to the Lakes.

The most successful performance of "The Merchant of Venice" on the new stage in February marked the School's first Shakespearean production since the war.

Parents enjoyed being asked to sing carols with the choir at the evening Carol Concert held on December 18th.

Colin Thompson (R.A.F.) was chosen a member of the English Olympic Hockey Team, 1956.

Peter Marler (Ph.D. London and Ph.D. Cambridge) read a paper on "Heredity in Bird Song" to the British Association.

Donald Anderson received the degree of Ph.D., London.

With sorrow we record the death in October last, after a road accident, of John Munro of Form 4b.

Former members will learn with regret of the death in March of Mrs. E. Clarke, widow of Mr. E. Rudland Clarke, M.A., former Head Master of this School. We all express our deepest sympathy to their son and daughter.

Valete

Mr. V. H. Taylor leaves us at the end of July after 28 years' service in Slough. He joined the staff of the Slough Secondary School in 1929, coming from Shepton Mallet Grammar School, and he continued with the boys' section when Slough Grammar School and Slough High School were organised separately in 1936. As a thorough and experienced teacher, Housemaster, and, latterly, Sixth Form Master, Mr. Taylor will be remembered by a long succession of former pupils for his keen interest in their welfare and his insistence on high standards of behaviour and learning. He has given liberally of his time and thought to school societies and social activities, and especially to making provision for Catholic boys in the school. He has served the school with affection and loyalty, and it is regretfully that we let him go to a well earned retirement, which may well prove to be extremely active. He will always be a welcome visitor.

After 11 years service in the school Mr. L. J. Cave leaves us in July to take up a post in Surrey as Senior English Master. He will be remembered here for his great work in dramatics, his launching and building up of our careers service, for his supervision of Religious Instruction, as Herschel House Master, and as an enthusiastic and diligent teacher. We regret his departure and we wish him well in his new responsibility.

Mr. C. A. Waite, too, is leaving us to take a senior post in Derbyshire. During his three years with us he has established the Library as an excellent factor in the school, and has carried through the immense work of reorganisation and cataloguing. He takes with him our good wishes for the future days.

School Officers

School Captain: K. F. Ball.

Vice-Captain: F. W. Harpley.

Full Prefects: R. H. Bester, A. R. Bowers, A. A. Clements, C. G. Hanson, G. A. D. King, P. E. Lawrence, J. R. G. Little, B. J. Long, J. E. Morgan, D. H. Noble, B. Richardson, A. J. Howe, M. J. Spinks, D. C. Spooner, P. C. Wheeler, J. A. Wynne-Jones.

Sub-Prefects: J. R. Abbott, D. G. Arthur, A. N. Buckland, R. F. H. Cooper, M. R. Cousins, M. A. Deuchar, M. S. Dovey, S. J. Hyde, E. G. Matthews, T. J. Sheehan, J. J. Siney, M. J. Spelman, D. E. L. Tunbridge, D. Windle, R. J. Wilson.

House Captains:

Gray: B. J. Long.	Herschel: J. R. Little.
Hampden: D. Noble.	Milton: K. F. Ball.

Football Captain: D. Windle.

Hockey Captain: M. A. Deuchar.

Cross-Country Captain: J. F. Passler.

Athletics Captain: M. A. Deuchar.

Cricket Captain: J. A. Wynne-Jones.

Salvete

A. Alderman, S. G. Arnott, A. G. Back, S. J. Baggs, N. E. Ball, F. H. Bell, A. R. Belson, W. Birmingham, J. A. Blaber, P. Bradley, G. Brant, A. F. Brown, R. J. Brown, G. Bucknell, D. L. Burley, C. Carritt, M. J. Clarke, G. Coleman, R. T. Croker, R. Dandridge, J. M. Dubery, C. Elderfield, G. Ellis, R. J. Ford, R. A. Fountain, M. Freestone, D. E. Garner, D. M. Garrod, J. M. Gray, R. W. Hannigan, B. C. Harden, M. G. Hatt, P. M. Hinchcliffe, B. Hissey, R. M. Holmes, D. W. J. Howie, B. M. Hynam, R. A. Jackson, R. L. Jellis, R. C. Johnson, B. G. Kelley, R. M. Kingston, J. A. Kirby, M. P. Lewis, R. S. Loomes, E. P. Lucas-Smith, C. J. Luck, M. J. McCrory, J. H. V. Marks, G. J. Marshall, P. A. Martin, R. Mason, A. M. Mayo, W. R. Merriitt, D. J. Morris, R. C. Moss, A. R. Muir, P. T. Newby, T. W. Phillips, D. J. Pratt, D. Ray, J. Roantree, M. Robson, M. G. Rosteghin, V. Russell, M. L. Shepherd, A. G. Simmonds, P. C. Slater, H. M. Smith, P. J. Soper, R. C. Steggall, D. B. Symes, M. Taylor, B. Thelwell, B. S. Thorp, K. R. Trennery, N. Trevorrow, J. Trigg, R. D. Turner, J. M. Virgo, P. B. Virgo, R. A. Webb, C. H. Weightman, H. Williams, P. A. Williams, J. R. Abbott, R. A. Burrell, F. J. Davey, P. G. Davey, R. B. Dowding, R. J. Ford, M. C. Freeman, B. Greenland, S. Kochanowski, B. K. Lawrence, J. MacGlincky, D. Rothero, P. I. M. Underwood.

Valete

B. J. Billington, Agriculture; M. F. Bradshaw, Guy's Hosp.; B. Cleverley, Agriculture; J. A. Coward; Durham Univ.; C. D. Elliott, Hull Univ.; D. W. Guest, Notts Univ.; N. J. F. Hammans, Civil Engineering; R. J. Hester, I.C.I.; J. A. Hobbs, St. Mary's, Paddington; J. F. Hughes, U.C.H.; R. J. Laing, N.S.; A. E. Marshall, R.A.F.; K. Melia, Accountancy; S. T. Painter, Notts Univ.; G. Parkes, Newland's Park T.T.C.; B. A. Parsons, Fulmer Res.; H. L. Phillips, L.S.E.; B. H. Pulsford; J. B. Rees, Accountancy; A. E. Robinson, G.E.C.; B. R. Schumann, N.C. Food Technology; R. G. Scott, Loughborough Technical Coll.; I. G. Simmons, U.C.L.; B. Thorp, Notts Univ.; A. Tulip, U.C.L.; J. O. Young, H.D.A.

J. G. Clark, Wrekin Coll.; A. R. Duesbury, to Coventry; K. F. Elstone, Army; D. Howells, Accountancy; M. A. Rayner, Agriculture; T. N. Taylor; C. J. Williams, R.A.F.

P. J. Adaway, Nat. Adhesives; J. M. Adlam, B.O.A.C.; E. A. Allen, Butchery; R. Aria, Radio Res.; D. K. Bartlett, Taylor's Elect.; T. Baxter, H.D.A.; D. A. Bell, Army; E. R. Birchell, Sun Life; R. Bray; C. J. Briggs, E.R.D.C.; T. J. Brion, S.B.C.; R. Burge, Bell's; R. G. Burrows, St. Helen's; J. Butcher, Cubitt's; R. Cargill, B.O.A.C.; A. P. H. Clarke, Rheo; A. J. Colcomb, Printing; M. D. Cook, Weatherfoil; R. G. Cross, H.D.A.; W. Dacke, Dist. Bank; J. D. Daly, Crane Packing; N. K. Gillard, Lyon's; R. J. Hannam, Cubitt's; F. L. Harris; A. Hawes, H.D.A.; M. Hawes, Fulmer Res.; M. E. Hill, S.B.C.; J. Holcroft, Fishmonger; K. T. Howard, Weatherfoil; K. G. Hubbard, I.C.I.; D. K. Hughes, Bell's; B. R. Johncock, Pinewood; P. R. Jones, Poly.; J. P. Judd, Stone Masonry; W. T. Keen; D. F. Kennedy, Hartleigh's; B. A. Lamb, S.B.C.; C. J. Lane, S.B.C.; G. A. Lewis, Clerk; K. Mansfield, Estate Agent's; D. C. Middleton, Rheo; M. R. Murphy, Vicker's; G. M. Paine, H.D.A.; A. D. Parfitt, Surplice's; B. A. C. Redman, S.B.C.; B. Rees, Admy. Comp.; R. Reid, Agriculture; P. W. Renton; A. J. Richmond, Lindley Thom's; R. L. Ricketts, Beacon Press; G. Rutter, Clerk; J. K. Smith, Peter's; J. T. Smith; L. J. Smith, Cotton's; R. J. Smith, St. Helen's; A. W. Southam, Accy.; R. Stokoe, Langley Alloys; R. W. Tandy, Taylowe's; K. F. Taylor, Barclay's; D. L. Thomas, Fulmer Res.; J. V. Thomas; C. B. Toogood, Barclay's; N. Ward, Black & Decker; J. C. Whipp, Admy. Comp.; G. J. Wickham, Sun Life; R. F. J. Willcox; A. J. Williams, R.N.

A. Brown; C. R. Dickinson; P. Dowling; J. A. Kirby; I. W. Lambert; D. P. Lawes; R. G. Matley; A. S. Watson; T. Wells; P. R. Hitchcock; J. Martin; C. May; J. Murphy; R. Murphy.

Speech Day, 1956

THE SCHOOL'S SPEECH DAY was held on the 11th of December at the Central Hall. Parents and guests having been welcomed by the new Chairman, Mr. J. T. Ireland, C.C., the School sang Parry's hymn, 'Jerusalem.' Then followed the Headmaster's report, in which Dr. Long drew particular attention to the new facilities made available in the School during the past year. Several new classrooms had been built, and metalwork shop constructed. There was now a fine new library, and, in the hall, an excellent apron stage, whilst outside the playing fields had been relaid. New oil-fired furnaces had been installed.

Turning to the academic side, Dr. Long said that the O level marks had been exceptionally good this year. There were 76 marks above 70, 17 above 80 and 2 above 90. 79 passes were obtained at A level. Such results, said the Headmaster, did the staff great credit. He particularly praised Mr. Collin, who, before the recent additions to the staff, had handled a difficult period most ably. Dr. Long said that on the sports field, too, the School continued to flourish. The football teams had won several trophies, the performance of the under 15 and under 13 elevens being particularly fine.

Having made the presentation of awards, the Lord Bishop of Buckingham, the Right Reverend R. M. Hay, expressed his pleasure at hearing the fine record. He went on to express the importance at school of the ability to give generously in affection and trust. Friendship and trust were vital in the world today to restore peace and security. His Lordship also reminded us that in this age of science, the simpler blessings of life must not be forgotten. A broad outlook on life was, he stated, essential.

A vote of thanks to the Lord Bishop was very ably proposed by the Head Boy, Keith Ball, and seconded by a former Head Boy, James Hobbs. The evening was then brought to a close by the four-part choir's rendering of "The Heavens are Telling" and "Rolling down to Rio."

R.F.H.C.

PRIZES FOR YEAR ENDING 31st JULY, 1956.

Form

- 1c Solomon, M. G. (1st in Form); Timms, C. R. (2nd in Form); Sirey, P. L. (3rd in Form).
 1b Kolaszynski, M. C. (1st in Form); Herbert, I. S. (2nd in Form); Le Page, J. S. (3rd in Form).
 1a Gardner, P. L. (1st in Form); Burden, J. P. (2nd in Form); Evans, C. W. (3rd in Form).
 2c Taylor, N. and Parsons, A. (1st in Form); Eyre, P. (3rd in Form).
 2b 1st Hellmuth, C. A. (1st in Form); Hill, R. J. (2nd in Form); Ivins, J. (3rd in Form).
 2a French, M. R. (1st in Form); Gedge, R. (2nd in Form); Fuller, E. F. (3rd in Form).
 3c Freeth, D. C. (1st in Form); Clements, E. G. (2nd in Form); Fahey, R. A. (3rd in Form).
 3b Hill, E. J. (1st in Form); Portsmouth, M. J. (2nd in Form); Johnson, A. M. (3rd in Form).
 3a Whitaker, R. J. (1st in Form); Butler, K. (2nd in Form); De Burton, A. D. (3rd in Form).
 4c Osborne, W. R. (1st in Form); Page, N. A. (2nd in Form); Watson, A. W. (3rd in Form).
 4b Lucas-Smith, A. J. H. (1st in Form); Levings, A. P. (2nd in Form); Jervis, A. F. (3rd in Form).
 4a Halstead, K. S. E. (1st in Form); Davenport, A. S. (2nd in Form); Deuchar, A. B. M. (3rd in Form).
 L.6 Cooper, R. F. (*English*); Lawrence, P. E. (*French*); Rowe, A. J. (*Pure and Applied Maths.*); Wheeler, P. C. (*Combined Maths., Physics and Chemistry [with German]*); Dovey, M. S. (*Physics and Library Service*); Richardson, B. (*Biology*); Sheehan, T. J. (*Latin [with Spanish]*); Tunbridge, D. E. and Long, B. J. (*Library Service*); Deuchar, M. A. and Spooner, B. C. (*Willing Service*).

FIFTH FORMS

(On results in examinations for Oxford General Certificate of Education (O.L.).)

- Birtchnell, E. R. and Hudson, A. (*English Language and Literature*).
 Hudson, A. (*Latin and French*).
 Harding, D. E. (*History*).
 Passler, J. (*Geography and Art*).
 Odell, B. G. (*Maths. and Biology*).
 Hudson, A. (*Physics*).
 Edwards, N. A. (*Chemistry and Biology*).
 Cargill, R. (*Woodwork*).

CERTIFICATES

- 9 subjects Briggs, G. J.; Cordery, A. R.; Edwards, N. A.; Flynn, W.; Harding, D. E.; Hudson, A.; Mason, G. J.; Marshall, J. G.; Odell, B. G.; Passler, J. F. E.; Ralley, D. S.; Thomas, W. E.; West, A. T.; Williams, D. T.
 8 subjects Birtchnell, E. R.; Burfoot, C. F.; Clements, P. W.; Cook, M. D.; Layn, W. J.; McLain, T. G.; O'Donoghue, C. P.; Taylor, K. F.; Watts, B. K. R.
 7 subjects Adaway, P. J.; Beasley, B.; Hubbard, K. G.; Lewis, G. A.; Parkes, M. C.; Pickering, J. F.; Sandilands, H. R.; Steen, H. L.; Thomas, P. R.
 6 subjects Barker, J.; Jones, P. R.; Paine, G. M.; Pleace, R.
 5 subjects Aria, R.; Dacke, W.; Daly, J. D.; Gore, F.; Hannam, R. J.; Hughes, R.; Lane, C. J.; Reid, R.
 4 subjects Flynn, J. F.; Hughes, D. K.; Keen, W. T.; Mansfield, K.; Smith, J. K.
 3 subjects Adlam, J. M.; Bamborough, J.; Baxter, T.; Freeman, D. J.; Little, G.; McCann, A. J.; Smith, R. J.; Toogood, C. B.; Whipps, J. C.

ADDITIONAL TO 6TH FORM STUDIES

- 2 subjects Deuchar, M. A. W.; Wynne-Jones, J. A.
 1 subject Bradshaw, M. F.; Hanson, C. G.; Little, J. R. G.; Marshall, A. E.; Parkes, G.; Schumann, B. R.; Dovey, M. S.; Hyde, S. J.; Matthews, E. G.; Sheehan, T. J.; Siney, J. J.; Spelman, M. J.; Wheeler, P. C.; Wilson, R. J.; Arthur, D. G.

UPPER SIXTH FORM

Oxford Certificate of Education (Advanced and Scholarship Levels)

PRIZES AND AWARDS

- Coward, J. A. (*English and History*) (3 subjects at A Level).
 Little, J. R. G. (*French and Dramatics*) (2 subjects at A Level, 1 at S Level).
 Phillips, H. L. (*Geography*) (1 Distinction at S Level, 1 subject at A Level).
 King, G. A. D. (*Economics*) (3 subjects at A Level).
 Tulip, A. (*Mathematics*) (1 Distinction and 1 pass at S Level, 2 at A Level).
 Harpley, F. W. (*Physics*) (1 subject at S Level, 2 at A Level).
 Morgan, J. E. (*Chemistry*) (2 subjects at S Level, 1 at A Level).
 Schumann, B. R. (*Biology*) (2 subjects at A Level).
 Simmons, I. G. (*Zoology, Botany, Geography*) (1 Distinction and 1 pass at S Level, 1 Distinction at A Level) (Awarded a *State Scholarship*).

COUNTY EXHIBITIONS

- Ball, K.; Billington, B.; Cleverley, B.; Elliott, C.; Guest, D.; Harpley, F.; Hobbs, J.; Hughes, J.; Little, J.; Morgan, J.; Painter, S.; Schumann, B.; Thorp, B.

STATE SCHOLARSHIP

- I. G. Simmons.

CERTIFICATES

- Ball, K. F.; Billington, B. J.; Bradshaw, M. F.; Cleverley, B.; Elliott, C. D.; Guest, D. W.; Hammans, N. J.; Hanson, C. G.; Hester, R. J.; Hobbs, J. A.; Hughes, J. F.; Laing, R. J.; Marshall, A. E.; Melia, K.; Noble, D. H.; Painter, S. T.; Parkes, G.; Parsons, B. A.; Pulsford, B. H.; Rees, J. B.; Robinson, A. E.; Scott, R. G.; Spinks, M. J.; Thorp, B.

SPECIAL PRIZES

- Headmaster's Prize: Simmons, I. G. (Head Boy, 1955/56).
 The "Ford" Cup (for outstanding voluntary service to the School): Hobbs, J. A.
 Dramatic Prize: Bowers, A. R.
 Swimming Championship Challenge Cup (presented by County Alderman A. E. Ward): Watson, A. W.
 Old Paludians' House Shield (for Games and Athletics): Herschel House.
 The Prize Fund has been greatly assisted by the generous donations received from Parents, for which the School is most grateful.

School Activities

The Merchant of Venice

THE CAST		
Antonio	A Merchant of Venice	J. Roger Little
Salarino	Friends of Antonio and Bassanio	Roger Monks
Salanio		Richard Burke
Gratiano	Suitors to Portia	Keith F. Ball
Bassanio		Ray Sandilands
Lorenzo	A rich heiress	Charles Tyrie
Portia	A maid	James Ivins
Nerissa	Servants to Portia	Michael Reeves
Balthazar		Paul Middleton
Stephano	A rich Jew	William Hardy
Shylock	Servant	James Barker
Launcelot Gobbo	Father of Launcelot	Norman Lovelock
Old Gobbo	Shylock's daughter	Roger H. Bester
Jessica	A Jew	David Alder
Tubal	Suitors	Graham King
Leonardo		Ian Lambert
The Duke of Venice	Attendants	Robin Bowers
The Prince of Morocco		John Pywell
The Prince of Arragon		Derek Smith
Gaoler		Barry Long
		F. Shrubbs, K. Broderick

Producer: Mr. A. D. Purvis.

Stage Management: Messrs. L. J. Cave, V. Evans, J. A. Redgrave, A. J. Rowland, H. Doncaster, D. Surry.

Box Office and House: Mr. J. Wharmby.

Stage Hands: R. Clay, C. Evans, H. Gilbert, M. Lewis, V. Mason, G. Smith. Electricians: P. Lawrence, M. Dovey.

Costumes and Wigs: Supplied by B. J. Simmons & Co. Ltd., Covent Garden.

Additional Lighting: Strand Electric.

Stage Properties: J. Arthur Rank Productions.

THIS YEAR, for the first time in the history of the School, the Dramatic Society decided to stage a Shakespearean production, "The Merchant of Venice." The new stage, in use publicly for the first time, gave an added interest to the production. Any doubts as to the ability of so youthful a cast to tackle the intricacies of Shakespeare were rapidly dispelled as the play unfolded. James Barker as Shylock was outstanding, evoking in the audience a sensation not merely of revulsion but also pity. He was ably supported by several experienced members of the society; Roger Little as Antonio gave an extremely polished performance and spoke his lines with a keen ear to their poetry. Keith Ball was a vigorous Gratiano, particularly in the later scenes, while Robin Bowers imparted a dignity and authority to the rather static part of the Duke of Venice. Ray Sandilands was a handsome and effective Bassanio.

The female roles, always a tricky problem, once again were excellently portrayed, thanks largely to the astute casting of Mr. Purvis. James Ivins, with quite the most difficult role a junior has ever had to fill, proved an extremely successful Portia and was well supported by Michael Reeves as Nerissa. David Alder, possessing the perfect timbre of voice for Jessica gave an interesting portrayal as the Jew's daughter. Watching the performances of these three one could reflect that this was a rare opportunity of seeing Shakespeare's female roles acted as he intended them to be — by boys.



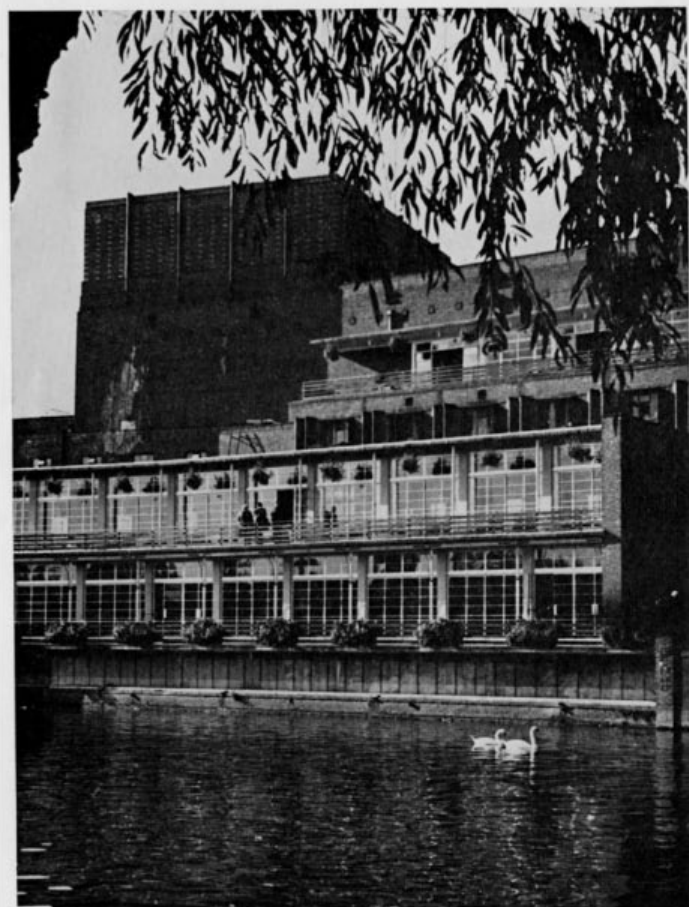
February, 1957

William Shakespeare



The Merchant of Venice

Centre: Bassanio.
Bottom right: Shylock.
Bottom left: Launcelot Gobbo.
Remaining portraits taken, and the whole compiled by R. H. Bester, Up. VI.



Stratford Memorial Theatre.

B. J. Long, U.6.

The comic scenes were carried off with considerable success; for Roger Bester's Old Gobbo was a masterly piece of character acting and Norman Lovelock succeeded in being an amusing and engaging Launcelot.

The remainder of the cast all performed ably in contributing to the huge success of the play. Obviously I cannot mention them all but Charles Tyrie deserves special mention for taking over the part of Lorenzo at such short notice when John Abbott was indisposed.

Finally, thanks are due as usual to all the "backroom boys", too numerous to mention by name; the Stage Managers, the electricians and stage hands under the able direction of Mr. Cave, and Mr. Wharmby in the Box Office. Mr. Wilton and Mr. Hampshire contributed the musical arrangements, supported by the school orchestra augmented by a few girls from the High School. The result was very pleasing. Production was, of course, by Mr. Purvis, who this year did an even better job than ever. This, as I have said, was the School's first Shakespearean production. It will obviously not be the last.

R.F.H.C.

"Emil and the Detectives"

ON DECEMBER 13th and 14th, 1956, the Junior Players, under the direction of Mr. A. D. Purvis and Mr. C. A. Waite, presented a dramatised English version of Erich Kaestner's well known tale. With considerable vigour the large cast threw themselves into a performance in which any lack of experience was immediately overcome by the great enthusiasm shown.

In the leading role B. Ray as Emil was very effective and was well supported by D. Alder who, ideally cast as The Professor, controlled the "gang" with admirable self-assurance. M. Pells as Gus gave a most energetic performance whilst R. Burry as Polly proved himself a possible "leading lady" of future senior productions. The remainder of the huge cast all fitted in perfectly and it says much for their ability that one can scarcely single out any individual performances. Nevertheless I think that K. Broderick and F. Shrubbs deserve special mention for two very good portrayals. Adult parts were taken by senior members of the School and amongst these C. Davenport gave us a sinister villain in the traditional mould.

Thanks are of course due to Mr. Purvis and Mr. Waite and several other members of the staff who gave such valuable help behind the scenes in making this such an enjoyable experiment. We look forward to the Junior Players' next production.

R.F.H.C.

Extra-Mural Activities of the Sixth Forms

MANY ARE THE opportunities offered to members of the Upper and Lower Sixth Forms to extend their knowledge outside the School curriculum, and there are always volunteers ready to take advantage of these privileges. These courses, conferences and lecture-series are often held outside school time, and sometimes involve lengthy and frequent journeys. Boys who take advantage of this provision are to be congratulated on their desire to add something worth-while to their usual studies. The calendar below gives an idea of the range of openings which have interested Sixth Form boys up to the end of the Easter holidays, and from the beginning of the school year.

17th October, 1956: "Othello" at the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon; 30 LVI, 27 UVI.

17th November, 1956: Hansard Society Session of Questions and Answers on Parliamentary Affairs, Central Hall, Westminster; 4 UVI.

17th November, 1956: Lecture on "Aviation Meteorology", L.C.C. County Hall; 2 LVI, 6 UVI.

21st November, 1956: Eton College: Literary Brains Trust; 2 LVI, 8 UVI.

3rd December, 1956: Repeated lecture on "Aviation Meteorology", L.C.C. County Hall; 5 LVI.

10th-14th December, 1956: Course on the British Commonwealth, Shortenalls; 8 LVI.

1st-4th January, 1957: Council for Education in World Citizenship Christmas Holiday Lectures on "North America"; 13 LVI, 7 UVI.

13th-20th March, 1957: Course on Sea-shore Ecology at Dale Fort; 4 UVI.

2nd April, 1957: Palace Theatre, London: Compagnie Edwige Feuillère in "Phédre"; 4 UVI.

3rd April, 1957: Duke of Edinburgh's illustrated talk on his recent tour; at the Royal Festival Hall; 9 LVI.

5th April, 1957: One-day conference at Aylesbury on the development of self-government within the British Commonwealth; 18 LVI, 10 UVI.

17th-27th April, 1957: 7th Paris Cultural Holiday; 8 LVI.

20th-28th April, 1957: Visit to the Lake District; 10 LVI, 2 UVI.

The social side has not been neglected, for twenty boys from the Lower Sixth have attended organised Dancing Classes at the Girls' High School, six in the Autumn Term and two in the Spring Term, while two inter-Lower Sixth parties have been enjoyed, the first on the 11th January, 1957, at the Grammar School, and the second at the High School on the 22nd March.

In addition, boys from both sections of the Sixth Form have rendered useful service in connection with a number of national and international charitable movements, and their assistance has been much appreciated.

V.H.T.

School Corps

TWENTY-EIGHT cadets went to Tregantle Fort for the ten days last July soon after School closed. Stormy blasts and bucketing rain washed out many a camp that first week-end, but we lay snug and protected behind the massive granite of this Victorian fort which rears up on the cliff top across the water from Plymouth.

It was on this same water that a few days later we watched from the fort a majestic aircraft carrier setting out on its urgent voyage to the Mediterranean. The Suez crisis had already deprived us of the company of infantry who were supposed to administer the camp. Fortunately we were not sent home. The camp was kept open. Some of the cadets were able to take on soldiers' duties. D. A. Bell, K. Elstone, A. Levings, and W. Osborne operated the switchboard and A. Clements and a staff of our boys ran the Officers' Mess.

Once more we won the Interior Economy Cup for the best barrack-room for the duration of the camp. This was a credit to our contingent because it included several recruits.

Thanks to the navy, who loaned and marked out their field, we were able to continue the normal practice of holding the County Sports at camp. A new feature last year was a boxing competition against Wiltshire cadets, who were in camp with us. R. Keenan, N. Gillard and J. Butcher distinguished themselves and helped Buckinghamshire to victory. Keenan has since reached the semi-final in the Army Cadet Force Championship.

This summer we are going to Chickerell Camp at Weymouth from July 27th to August 7th. We have already enjoyed two very happy camps there, and we are looking forward to holding there our twelfth camp since the war.

At home this year has been marked in two ways. Firstly, there has been a notable increase in assistance from the Army. Three and perhaps four times we are being visited by a Travelling Wing. Salisbury Plain District have given us places on courses. B. Beasley and C. Rees have been on a Section Leading course and G. Hanson on an advanced Signals course, each lasting one week at Bulford Camp, Salisbury Plain. We have also been drawn closer to the Regiment to which we are affiliated. This is the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry whose beret and cap badge we bear. Former cadets may recall years ago week-end courses at Cowley Barracks, Oxford, the depot of the Regiment. These courses have been revived and four are taking place this year, the last one to include a Certificate 'A' examination. We are also to adopt once more Light Infantry drill.

Secondly, this year will be notable for our joining the Schools National Wireless Net. This net has been going for several years now and includes well over a hundred schools (mostly Grammar and Public schools) in all parts of the British Isles. We have had a Signals Section for some time, but we only received the wireless sets necessary to enable us to join the net last September. This equipment (including the lofty aerial masts) was installed by D. A. Bell and K. Elstone before they went off to make a career in the R.E.M.E. From September to the end of February the new sets were operated mainly by G. Hanson and J. Young so successfully that we actually won the most contacts competition. J. Hanson and A. Lucas-Smith were assistant operators.

A new instruction just received is that every cadet must fire a classification course on the 25 yards range. So far (the end of Easter Term) three cadets, W. Thorne, E. Clements and C. Burfoot have gained 1st Class. We have also entered a team for the Duncombe Cup.

This is too early to chronicle this year's Certificate 'A' successes. Last June the full Certificate was gained by B. Beasley, A. Clements, B. Lamb, D. Ralley, C. Rees and N. Ward. The following passed Part I:- N. Gillard, A. Levings, W. Osborne, A. Lucas-Smith, R. Keenan, J. Hanson, E. Clements and G. Oliver.

The strength of the unit was hit rather badly by school-leaving last year and some others have fallen by the wayside since then. We therefore turn with a special welcome to those third formers who have just been admitted to the Corps as recruits. We hope that when the time comes the Corps will be able to find its senior N.C.O.'s from among their number.

We have just received excellent reports on Rees and Beasley at the Fieldcraft and Section Leading course at Bulford Camp in Wiltshire. In spite of keen competition from members of other grammar schools, including some famous ones, Rees and Beasley were among the 27 out of 62 to be awarded the Instructor's Certificate.

Finally the Coy. Commander takes this opportunity to note the stalwart work for the Company of Gordon Hanson, Senior N.C.O. for this year, and to commend his loyalty through several years of service and the readiness with which he has shouldered his responsibilities.

Signals Training in the School A.C.F.

A FEW YEARS ago Major Wharmby suggested Signals Training as an additional interest to the cadets' activities. This training includes telephone working and line-laying, wireless operating and procedure, signals organisation and many other topics. To begin with we were issued with four 18 wireless sets, ten D.5 telephones with several miles of wire.

In the early days there was much experimenting. Who will forget the expression on a certain sergeant's face when he put 162 volts through the valves! Then there was the linelaying inside the school when the weather was too wet for outside work; fire extinguishers became fairly effective "tie-backs" while a radiator made an excellent "earth".

From the start of the Signal Section we have received invaluable help from Royal Signals units of the regular army through the courses which they have

provided during the Christmas and Easter vacations at Bulford Camp on Salisbury Plain. There, in company with cadets from other grammar schools, several of our signallers have gained the skills which entitle them to wear the crossed flags badge, and some have even been awarded instructor's certificates.

At Annual Camp we regularly lay line for inter-battalion communication, and last year the cadets stood in at the telephone exchange when the regular operators were called away during the Suez crisis. Line laying at camp is much more realistic than in this part of the country. Common obstacles including main roads, streams, woods and marshes have to be surmounted while the greatest menaces are inquisitive cadets from other companies who seem to enjoy pulling up a line which has been so carefully buried by our linesmen.

Further Signals issues include four 38 wireless sets, a telephone switchboard, superimposing units and modern line laying equipment. Last summer we were loaned two 22 wireless sets which greatly impressed the junior cadets due, I think, to the lights and loud hum produced. C/Sgt. Bell was soon in regular contact with schools within an area of fifty miles, and during the summer holidays we at last became a member of the National Schools Network. During the autumn term a "Most Contacts" competition was organised; this lasted until February and this school had the distinction of winning this competition, in which schools all over Britain participated. The walls of the armoury are now covered with about three hundred Q.S.L. cards, each one representing a contact with another school.

Until January none of the operators knew morse, but after much hard work the intricacies have been mastered and we can now send and receive at quite a reasonable speed, regularly having very interesting "conversations" with Brentwood, Edinburgh, High Wycombe and Liverpool most lunch-hours.

All this Signal Training makes a pleasant change from Map Reading, Fieldcraft and Weapon Training, and I hope that this article will correct the impression of many boys who think that we march up and down the parade ground every Tuesday from 4.15 until 6.30. Just look at the yearly report above and you will see that a cadet's life is certainly anything but a dull one.

School Library

Circulations Dept.: D. E. L. Tunbridge, J. F. Passler, P. Thomas; *Accessions Dept.*: M. S. Dovey, R. Sandilands; *Assistants*: J. C. Mant, D. R. Preest, I. D. Stuart, M. Lewis, P. Faulkner, L. G. Hendy, R. Palmer, H. J. Roberts.

SINCE THE LIBRARY moved into its new premises, as reported in the last issue of *The Swan*, it has witnessed several great improvements, but suffered one great loss.

The loss was the departure of our chief Sixth Form Librarian, A. E. Marshall, who in his last two years at school devoted tremendous energy to the task of reorganising the Library.

The work of Marshall, and many other boys, has reached its culmination this year: all books are now recarded, documented, and numbered. Further, new systems have been introduced. Chief amongst these is the new catalogue, the making of which has been a very laborious job. It has involved the writing out of 12,000 cards, correct in every detail, over a period of fifteen months. Upwards of twenty boys have given a hand in this work, but it is to a faithful corps of nine or ten who have seen the whole job through that most credit must go. They have freely given much time and energy in the interests of all present and future members of the school. With the completion of this operation, several boys who took part have now been given tasks in the daily running of the Library.

With the new services afforded by the catalogue and the subsequently possible book-reserving system, and the attack on the disorganisation created by some thoughtless borrowers, the Library should henceforward be able to offer an even more efficient service to its users.

For the second time, the staff were invited to visit the old library of Eton College. Our thanks are due to the Librarian, Mr. Lyon, who so kindly conducted us on the tour.

Lakeland Saga

TO SOME the experience was new, to others a reunion with the past. Big, bulbous blisters, aching thighs and every possible variety of weather phenomenon—all these are catered for by the now annual Purvitour. However, Purvitours also provide the best and cheapest opportunity to visit the English Lake District at Eastertime. This opportunity was seized by an enthusiastic group of Fifth and Sixth Form boys. Accompanying them were a somewhat more docile but none the less keen set of "experienced hands". A familiar repetition was commonly noted—"my boy, when you're as old as I am" . . . the sardonic smiles of those senile souls reflected their awareness of what was to come. Would we survive the test, eight days of hard, honest "fell-bashing"? Purvitours central organisation indeed planned a most varied and enjoyable week—weak legs and a weak heart.

Our first day in the Lakes showed us how appealing it can be when it rains. One party actually walked from Borrowdale over to Watendlath fell—boggy enough even in fine weather. However, our luck was to improve and we were to be blessed with a perfect week. Most of the fells around the Lakes Derwent, Buttermere, Conistone and Ullswater were covered by the party. For this we are indebted to Driver Dick White and his willingness to "hurl" the coach so expertly round winding lanes and narrow confines.

When visiting Wordsworth's Grammar School in Hawkeshead, the photographic expedition which had commandeered Mr. Purvis' venerable car, were unaware of the disappearance of their steed during their absence. Feverish searching finally revealed it hidden behind an innocent whitewashed cottage. Yet one more Lakeland village had experienced the presence of Slough!

On the Thursday a sigh of contentment and satisfaction was breathed from those who had pioneered Sca Fell Pike the previous year. Instead of a roaring wind and thick dense cloud even the Isle of Man could be seen, a rare sight in Springtime.

With all serious appreciation our thanks must be extended to Messrs. Purvis and Mills for fostering the Lakeland spirit and organising the expedition. Without the hospitality of the warden and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Macambridge, our happiness could not have been so complete. Without our experienced guides where could we have got? Two old boys of the School, Messrs. Norman Bennett and Alan Carr, were aided and abetted by Mr. Dave Hassock. Mr. Surry made a welcome return to the Lakes while Mr. Wilson tried out his Scottish climbing experience on some good old English walks.

Anybody hoping to find the abominable snowman, or a similar rarity, on the fells may well come across a queer character wearing two right boots. He was last seen outside Keswick post office

A.L.F.

Seventh Paris Cultural Holiday

DURING THE EASTER holidays, a party from the Lower Sixth Form French group attended the Seventh Paris Cultural Holiday. Some 1,000 boys and girls from all over the British Isles made up the party, which was accommodated in four lycées in the Latin Quarter of Paris. The mornings, the programme told us sternly, were to be devoted to lectures and *cours pratiques*; the afternoons and evenings were for organised or independent sight-seeing, "cultural visits" to the theatre, opera, cinema and so on.

After a good journey as far as Dieppe, we discovered that owing to the French railway strike, we would have to travel to Paris by coach. This part of the journey would have been most enjoyable if we had not been so tired; as it was, we were heartily thankful when we arrived at the lycée—a grim, forbidding building vaguely reminiscent of Wandsworth Prison.

We were awakened at an appallingly early hour next morning by the mighty roar of cascading waters—the washing apparatus, which consisted of a stone trough about 30ft. long with a horizontal pipe some three feet above it. In this pipe, at regular intervals, were small holes from which cold water sprayed under considerable pressure. If a single person wanted to wash, the whole machine had to be set in action; consequently, it was quite impossible to sleep before the last person was in at night or after the first had risen in the morning.

The lectures and *cours pratiques* took place between 9 a.m. and around 12.30, at the Sorbonne (Paris University) and one of the lycées respectively. The lectures were delivered—in French!—by University lecturers, and were devoted to our set books, while the mysterious *cours pratiques* turned out to be just like ordinary French lessons.

One of the highlights of the visit was a reception in the Hôtel de Ville for English, Dutch, German and Swiss boys and girls spending Easter in Paris. We were welcomed to France by various officials, and representatives of each country responded in turn. The band played the national anthems, and we wandered through the magnificent rooms in which, only a week or so before, the Queen had been entertained by the city of Paris—this was an occasion to remember. It is difficult to write about the many organised visits without becoming guide-bookish, and a discreet veil should be drawn over the incidents which enlivened them, but I must note in passing the visit to the Comédie Française to see "The Marriage of Figaro", and a trip to Versailles, which would have been more enjoyable had not half Paris decided to go on the same day, the hottest day of the year so far. Sad to say, I think that the most outstanding memory of Versailles was being charged 85 francs (1s. 9d.) for a bottle of coca-cola.

As always when one enjoys oneself, the time passed all too rapidly, and in what seemed a very short time, we had to return home. However, even in ten days, we saw enough of Paris to make us determined to return at the earliest possible opportunity to renew and extend our acquaintance with this friendly and beautiful city.

J. BARKER, LVI.

Dale Fort, 1957

FOR THE UNINITIATED, or should I say unblooded, Dale Fort is the Field Centre for geography and marine biology in Pembrokeshire, West Wales.

We left Paddington a small group of six, consisting of four humans, one semi-human and a master. The ensuing train journey was at first dull and uneventful, only enlivened by a crisp argument as to whether it was worth leaving a sixpenny tip after our heavily subsidised British Railway's meal. We then met a group of Welsh boys with the same destination in mind. They possessed a repertoire of ribald songs, unrepeatable jokes, and, best of all, a banjo. To say the least, all were in a happy mood when we "detrained" at Haverfordwest—all, that is, except the tame Welsh instrumentalist who complained of raw fingers and blistered hands. A thirty minute coach ride and twenty minute walk brought us to our goal, the 101-year-old fort, moat on three sides, sheer cliff the other. The things we do for education!

The wonderful atmosphere that exists there soon caught up with us, and we and the rest of the inmates, many for the first time, discovered the pleasure of hard work. It was nothing to see lights burning in the laboratory until the small hours. Biologists augmented their dreams of girls, both near and far away, with those of algae, quadrats, sea and tides.

The food provided was enough, and quite good, though even the warden's dog ran howling from the offer of a packed lunch sandwich. The meal-times were decidedly gay, though breakfast was perhaps a more sombre occasion, the reason being, I think, that no one really woke up till he had had a second cup of tea.

The Welsh weather was well up to the standard we had been warned to expect: it rained every day. But only once was it hard enough to dampen our spirits. It was during this particular deluge that one of the girls discovered that the dye in her slacks ran. She had legs of a rather pleasing pale green for some time afterwards. Another of the girls from London was a real gone, cool, hep-cat, and she much regretted the geography group's refusal of a trip to St. Elvis Bay.

One day we were working on some rock pools in an isolated cove when, much to our consternation, we discovered that our retreat along the shore was cut off by the tide. But our Welsh mountain-goat, Mr. Binstead, raced up a vertical rock face, gazed up a precipitous cliff, and shouted, obviously with great glee, "It's quite easy up here." Two hundred feet and half an hour later, we hauled sherpa Leeke over the top, and our climb was completed. From this experience we gained a new knowledge of cliff scrambling and of the state of the semi-circular canals and nervous systems of our compatriots. There were, however, no accidents, though at least two people had mentally sold Mr. Leeke's movie camera at 100% profit; and one, going even further, "accidentally" dislodged a few boulders on his upward path—all the best of fun.

At last the final day arrived, and we spent hours in the drenching rain collecting specimens which would prove to those at home that our time had not been wasted. The last night itself was uneventful. Most of us just didn't go to bed at all.

At 7.15 a.m. the next day, having "washed", breakfasted and packed, we were, in the light of the first sun we had seen for a week, making our way down to the village and home. We had had a wonderful time, learnt much from our varied curriculum, and were returning dirty but undaunted.

Our thanks are due to the warden, Mr. Barrett, for his tolerance; to Mr. Moyse, the resident biologist, and to Mr. Leeke, who now knows as much as we do. To Mr. Binstead go our sincerest thanks for his excellent handling of a rowdy bunch and some quite tricky situations: his understanding attitude helped make the course the success it was. As a tribute and peace-offering, the tail-piece is dedicated to him:

ALGAR ANONYMOUS; FUCUS FORGIVEN.

J. R. ABBOTT, UVI.

The School Choir

THIS YEAR the choir has explored new fields under the enthusiastic and stimulating leadership of the School's new Music Master, Mr. Wilson. Its first duty was at the annual Speech Day, but the choir has not faded into the usual oblivion. For each morning before school, practices are held for the hymns and occasional anthems sung at the daily assembly. The critical audience has undoubtedly softened any terrors that the previously infrequent public performances may have held. Besides the religious works, however, secular songs are practised during the lunch-hour, and the newly formed madrigal group is gaining invaluable experience from constant sight-reading and singing. Indeed, there is probably more keenness for musical production than for some years: nor is this new-found enthusiasm shown only in the efforts of the choir. It is a trend that we trust will continue.

The Theatre and Film Society

President: Mr. Surry.

Chairman: P. E. Lawrence; *Secretary and Treasurer:* B. J. Long.

As usual, new officials were appointed at the beginning of the new school year and new members were encouraged to join the society. Although it seems that the upper school is too aloof to enjoy visits to theatres and cinemas, the society has been well supported by the junior and middle school members.

The society has unfortunately been limited to a few meetings and outings only. Outings have been restricted due to the difficulty of obtaining transport. We sincerely hope that this will not be the case for much longer.

The first major outing undertaken by the society was a visit to Bertram Mill's Circus at Olympia on the 31st January. A party of thirty-three boys went, including three members of staff, Mr. Mills, Mr. Saunders and Mr. Surry.

A film show was then presented, featuring "Commonwealth of Nations", and this was followed by a talk on "How Films are Produced".

We hope that this society will continue to be well supported and that its members will also continue to derive great enjoyment from its functioning.

B. J. LONG, *Secretary*.

Aquarium and Natural History Society

President: Dr. W. R. V. Long; *Sponsor:* Mr. K. F. Colombo; *Committee:* N. A. Edwards, W. J. Layn, B. G. Odell, A. T. West.

THIS YEAR the society decided to change its name to the Aquarium and Natural History Society, in order to widen the scope of its activities.

The year's programme varied considerably, ranging from an evening's lecture and films, illustrating the topic "Wild Life in Africa", to a marine exhibition prepared by members of the Dale Fort expedition. Other topics included a film and talk on Bee Keeping by Mr. Colombo and lectures given by members of the society.

The society has a full programme of lectures and film-shows being arranged for the following year and hopes that they will be met with the considerable success enjoyed by previous meetings.

The Printing Society

THE PRINTING SOCIETY has had another very successful year. This has certainly been the Society's busiest year since its formation eight years ago.

We were sorry to lose Mr. B. A. A. Knight at the end of the Summer Term, 1956, after being with us for two years. In his place, we welcome Mr. R. J. Richards and Mr. D. M. Surry who, although novices last September, have quickly learned the major techniques of printing.

We have been very well supported by clubs, societies and associations outside the school as well as by school societies, other schools and even two universities. Our thanks are due to members and former members of the school who have "recommended" our work to their clubs and societies. I'm sure they have never been disappointed with the results. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all who have supported the society by giving us their orders. It is through their kind support that the society has flourished and expanded so much during the last few years.

Finally, I would like to thank the members of the society who meet each week to fulfil the many orders which we receive.

F. W. HARPLEY, *Secretary*.

Aircraft Recognition Society

Chairman & Secretary: D. E. L. Tunbridge; *Treasurer:* M. S. Dovey.

As a result of popular demand, this society was inaugurated half-way through the Autumn term, 1956. An exhibition of aircraft models and photographs was arranged to attract attention, as a result of which some eighty boys joined. This number decreased in the Spring term, leaving the real enthusiasts.

A talk, arranged by B.O.A.C., and several film shows have sustained keen interest to date. One outstanding film, loaned by Fairey Aviation Co., Ltd., showed the Fairey Delta Two attacking the world speed record. Frequent recognition tests have been held, and one trip to London Airport has been undertaken. It is hoped that by the time this article appears, we shall have had a guided tour around B.O.A.C.'s headquarters at London Airport.

D.E.L.T. (*Secretary*).

Road Safety

With the Slough experiment being carried out around us, and there being a Junior Road Safety Council in the Borough, it was decided to form a School committee of six members, of which three would represent the School on the Junior Council. Michael Spinks was elected chairman of the Council, and received the chain of office from the Mayor.

A team of four was entered for the inter-schools road safety quiz, and was only narrowly defeated in the final. We hope for even greater success next year.

If enough boys are interested, a coach trip, with the backing of Slough Road Safety Council, will be run to Rospa House, London's road safety training centre. This should prove an interesting trip, and will give hints both on road safety and on the maintenance and care of bicycles.

M.J.S.

Geographical and Historical Society

Chairman: S. J. Hyde; *Secretary:* R. F. H. Cooper; *Treasurer:* A. A. Clements.

Whilst membership has fallen off considerably in the past few years a number of meetings have been attended by a small band of faithful followers. One meeting was held in conjunction with the High School when Bowers gave a fascinating illustrated talk on his recent tour of America. Another enjoyable evening was had by all when Mr. Wilson gave a novel travel talk with musical connections. Especially interesting in the Spring term was Matthews' talk on the Inland Waterways of England which he illustrated with a film. B. Long and R. Bester are others who have contributed to our enjoyment. We look forward to next year's third forms to swell the ranks to their previous dimensions.

Finally may we take this opportunity of thanking Messrs. Wharmby, Wilson and Spence for their helpful remarks and advice in the running of the society.

R.F.H.C.

Sixth Form Bridge Club

WE HAVE SUCCESSFULLY held meetings of this club every Monday after school. Although the membership is small, we have played four matches for teams of four pairs, twice against Glaxo Laboratories, beating them quite comfortably both times, and twice against the 250 Bridge Club, losing both matches, once rather heavily against an experienced team. Those who played in the team include D. Arthur, K. Ball, M. Deuchar, F. Harpley, S. Hyde, D. Noble, A. Rowe, M. Spinks, D. Spooner, G. Wynne Jones.

We should like to thank Mr. Dickinson for his help, and also Mr. Saunders who assisted us in beating Glaxo on one occasion. The club was also represented in the Bucks and Berks County Pairs and County Fours Tournaments.

D. NOBLE, *Hon. Secretary*.

Scientific Society

Chairman: M. J. Spinks; *Secretary:* D. E. L. Tunbridge.

Despite the society's record membership, 198, this year, enthusiasm has been sadly lacking and the attendance at the meetings has been low. It is hoped that they will have more support in the future.

Several film shows have been held to which the High School's Society were also invited and to those girls who supported the meetings we should like to give our thanks. We are also indebted to the film libraries which provided the documentaries and other films of general interest. J. Young, our secretary, left during the autumn term and we would like to thank him for his willing service and for the high standard film shows which he arranged. We wish him every success for the future.

Like last year's very successful trip, when twenty members toured the Kodak factory, we are arranging, fuel situation permitting, a coach trip in the summer term. At the time of printing the destination is uncertain but it is hoped to be the B.B.C. studios or Cadby Hall, the home of J. Lyons & Co. Ltd.

Finally the Society would like to take this opportunity of thanking the members of the staff for the time and guidance they have so willingly given us.
M.J.S.

Music Society

President: Dr. W. R. V. Long; *Vice-Presidents:* Mr. J. Collin, Mr. V. H. Taylor and Mr. S. Binstead; *Chairman:* R. Bester; *Musical Adviser:* Mr. D. A. Wilson; *Secretary:* G. A. D. King; *Treasurer:* J. Siney.

The Music Society has been very active this year. One lunch hour concert has been held each week, programmes varying between classical music and jazz. For a short period other concerts were held after school, but these proved to be unpopular and so were discontinued.

Four evening concerts were arranged in conjunction with the High School, two consisting of 'live' entertainment, one of films and one of records. These concerts were all very successful, but unfortunately school society members were greatly outnumbered by girls from the High School. The society was also kindly invited to a concert at the High School, and a party held there in April was greatly enjoyed.

The society has sponsored two trips to classical concerts in London, whilst a visit to a jazz concert at the Royal Festival Hall has been arranged for early April.

Thanks must be expressed to Mr. Taylor, and especially to Mr. Wilson for their great assistance. With even more enthusiasm on the part of the members, the society will continue to flourish.

G. A. D. KING, *Hon. Secretary.*

Cercle Français

Grâce à la direction enthousiaste de M. Taylor, le Cercle Français a recommencé ses activités après un laps d'une année. Le programme varié a divertit et instruit tous ceux qui ont assisté aux réunions. Quelques scènes tirées des classiques français, des charades, des jeux de plusieurs sortes, d'autres moyens de conversation et de discours, et des chansons ont aidé à tout le groupe à voir un autre aspect de la langue française. À l'égard des chansons, nous voudrions remercier M. Wilson d'avoir si soigneusement et si adroitement guidé nos efforts. Nous avons passé des heures fort intéressantes, et espérons que tous en ont bénéficié. Nous voudrions cependant voir parmi nous plus de scientifiques aspirants, pour qui le Cercle a été originalement fondé: eux, comme les membres actuels, seront toujours les bienvenus.

J. R. LITTLE, *Séc.*

The Morris Men

Squire: R. H. Bester. *Bagman:* A. R. Bowers.

After a period of inactivity last year, the School Morris Men have once again developed into a fully flourishing club. This "rebirth" must be attributed to the enthusiasm of a number of Third Forms boys. So determined have been their efforts that the Club's present repertoire has been built up over a very short period. The perseverance of Mr. H. Doncaster and a number of "old hands" has been well rewarded. Credit must also go to two very willing and co-operative musicians; C. R. Timms and C. P. Summerhayes have played with as much enthusiasm as the boys have danced.

Three successful public performances have already been given this year. The Music Society provided the group with their first opportunity, while the Annual Gym Display gave them an opportunity to dance before a larger audience. Mr. Doncaster's own team, The Whitchurch Morris Men always extend an invitation to dance with them at convenient meetings. The May Fair at Beaconsfield was one such invitation, and the School Morris Men showed their appreciation with some first-class dancing. With at least four Morris meetings to attend this term, the future holds good prospects. It is possible that some older members will attend the National Ring Meeting at Winchester, while the Whitchurch Full-Day of Dancing will give all the Morris Men a chance to dance at a major meeting nearer home.

The School Morris Men have achieved all this only by an inexhaustible enthusiasm. Good luck to them!

R. H. BESTER, *Squire.*

House Notes

Gray House

House Captain: B. J. Long; *Vice-Captain:* J. G. Pywell; *Athletics Captain:* J. G. Pywell; *Athletics Vice-Captain:* D. A. Harding; *Committee:* J. E. F. Passler, D. E. L. Tunbridge, R. Walmsley; *Secretary:* A. A. Clements.

WE ARE very happy to learn that the senior members of the House, who left us last year have made a good start in their further studies or in the careers they have chosen. Good luck to them! Their departure has resulted in some changes among the Officials remaining and in the introduction of some "new blood". We thank those who have served us so well before and we welcome those who are new, and who have already shown their zeal and initiative, and their firm intention to serve the House as fully as possible.

The whole body of Officials has already got enthusiastically busy with definite plans to make Gray once again the leading House. They ask for the wholehearted support and co-operation of every member of the House to ensure that the ultimate success is obtained. Already some seniors and a good number of juniors are practising for Sports Day, the only way to make sure of the result we seek. Keep it up!

Gray House boys are keen members of the school football teams, the Rugby and Rowing clubs and School societies.

On Sports Day last year two boys in Class One obtained very creditable results; Passler came 1st in the 880 yards and the Scratch Mile; Pywell was 1st in the Hurdles, again 1st in the same event at the County Sports, and represented

the County at the All-England Sports at Plymouth. In addition Colcomb gained 1st place in Throwing the Discus, Class 2, while Cook was 1st in the Long Jump, Class 3.

R. Keenan is to be congratulated on reaching the semi-finals at Bristol of the National Cadet Boxing Championships, a fine achievement.

In cross country competitions the House is holding its own. The senior section has as its enthusiastic Secretary, R. Walmsley, whom we welcome to the School and to the House.

A short time ago the Gray House *Chronicle* was distributed: it was well received and will be followed by further issues. Look out for them! The Junior House meeting and Social, held in January, was greatly enjoyed and many of the newcomers are now keenly interested in the affairs of their House. Besides working together to recapture the premier position on Sports Day, all can do much to regain the Old Paludians House Shield, given for prowess in all the other athletic activities of the School. Go to it Gray!

A. A. Clements, *Hon. Secretary*.

Hampden House

Captain: D. Noble; *Secretary:* M. J. Spelman; *Games Captain:* D. Arthur.

DURING THE past year, we have had to say farewell to some of the most outstanding members of the House. The most notable of these is I. G. Simmonds, who held the proud position of School Captain and, having gained a State Scholarship, he is now studying at London University. R. Scott and B. Thorp have likewise left us and both have entered university. Thorp, furthermore, was an outstanding school athlete, and he, together with D. Rees, who has also left us this year, formed the backbone of the House athletic team. They will all be greatly missed this summer.

Looking on the brighter side, we can count several promising Junior athletes amongst our numbers. We hope that they will all train hard and restore something of the former glories of this House in the coming summer.

Herschel House

House Masters: Messrs. L. J. Cave, R. Portus, J. Wharmby, R. Mills, H. Doncaster, D. Madge, C. Chapman; *House Officials:* *Captain,* J. R. Little; *Vice-Captain,* F. W. Harpley; *Secretary,* J. E. Morgan; *Committee:* R. H. Bester and C. P. O'Donoghue.

THE PAST YEAR has been a most successful one for the House, both academically and in the field of sport.

Academically, we congratulate J. Hobbs, J. Coward, H. Phillips, D. Guest and B. Cleverley, who have left us to continue their studies at Universities. In addition to these, F. W. Harpley, J. R. Little and J. E. Morgan were also awarded County Exhibitions on the results of their G.C.E. examinations taken in June, 1956.

The House retained the Old Paludians House Shield. The athletic events were outstanding, the House winning the Steil Trophy in Class III, the Smith Trophy in Class II, the Johnson Trophy in Class I and the Headmaster's Cup. In addition, A. Henry won the Mile Handicap Trophy.

Eight members of the House competed in the District Sports meeting, when P. R. Jones set up a new javelin record. Again, we had eight representatives at the County meeting, when B. Cleverley broke the existing javelin record. A House record was broken when four members, J. Hobbs, B. Cleverley, R. Thomas and A. Alderman, were further honoured by being chosen to represent Bucks at the All-England sports at Plymouth.

Of the School Officials, J. Hobbs was honoured in being School Captain. However, he left us soon afterwards having gained a late place at London University. F. W. Harpley was then appointed School Vice-Captain. He was also captain of the School Bridge team. D. Windle and J. Siney were respectively the captains of the football 1st and 2nd XIs. We congratulate also C. G. Hanson on his promotion to Company Sergeant Major of the School Cadet Force. The House has been well represented in School Societies and in the Dramatic Production, not to mention two Editors of this magazine.

The Annual Inter-House Social with the High School was held on Thursday, April 4th, and attended by senior members of the House. A very enjoyable evening was had by all, and we thank the High School for preparing the delicious refreshments. Our thanks are also due to R. H. Bester for his very able handling of the evening's entertainments.

We welcome Mr. Chapman as our newest House Master, and also welcome all new members of the House, and hope they will continue with the high standard which the House at present enjoys.

We wish to thank all who have given of their time and energy in the service of the House and to congratulate them on the excellent results achieved. However, we must not rest on our laurels, but strive for even greater success both in sport and in our academic studies.

F.W.H.

Milton House

Captain: K. F. Ball; *Vice-Captain:* M. Deuchar; *Secretary:* R. Cooper.

Whilst the past year has not been one of outstanding success, nevertheless Milton has contributed considerably to sporting and cultural activities in the School.

B. Richardson took S. Painter's place as captain of the Rugby XV, M. Spinks remains captain of the Badminton team and M. Deuchar is now captain of Athletics as well as Hockey. We learned with pleasure that R. Gale a former captain of the House had been appointed Vice-Captain of Bristol University Football 1st XI.

Whilst we did quite creditably on Sports Day this was largely due to the efforts of Richardson, the Deuchars and one or two bright stars in the Junior School. As this report shows the immediate need of the House is more teamwork. There has been too much reliance on individuals in the past two years. We look to the new members of the School in this respect and if every member of the House pulls his weight in the coming year there is no reason why Milton shouldn't become the crack House once more.

We were sorry to lose our Captain and Vice-Captain, Pulsford and Painter, who contributed so much, particularly to sport, in the House, and also A. Tulip and J. Hughes who devoted much time to social and cultural activities in the School. We wish them all success knowing well that they will serve their Universities as well as they did their House and School.

Finally, congratulations to Keith Ball, the fifth Milton House Captain in recent years to become Head Boy.

R.F.H.C.

Games and Athletics

Athletics, 1956

(G—Gray; Ha.—Hampden; He.—Herschel; M—Milton)

A SUNNY DAY again greeted the School Sports Day, on which six records were broken and one equalled. Perhaps the most notable of these were Class II 880 Yards, where C. Summerhayes broke the record by nearly 11 seconds, and Class I Discus, where B. Cleverley added almost 12 feet to the best performance. Herschel House retain the House Shield, achieving an overwhelming victory over their nearest opponents, Milton.

Class I:

100 Yards [Record (1951): 10.6 secs.] 1st, M. Deuchar (M); 2nd, J. Rees (Ha.); 3rd, J. Pywell (G); 4th, B. Cleverley (He); Time, 11.0 secs.

220 Yards [Record (1951): 23.75 secs.] 1st, M. Deuchar (M); 2nd, J. Pywell (G); 3rd, B. Cleverley (He); 4th, J. Hobbs (He). Time 25.1 secs.

440 Yards [Record (1954): 55.4 secs.] 1st, M. Deuchar (M); 2nd, J. Passler (G); 3rd, B. Richardson (M); 4th, R. Bester (He), J. Wynne-Jones (He). Time 55.5 sec.

880 Yards [Record (1949): 2 mins. 9.5 secs.] 1st, J. Passler (G); 2nd, A. Henry (He); 3rd, B. Richardson (M); 4th K. Ball. Time 2 mins. 16.8 secs.

Mile [Record (1949): 4 mins. 50.3 secs.] 1st, J. Passler (G); 2nd, A. Henry (He); 3rd, B. Richardson (M); 4th, J. Wynne-Jones (He). Time 4 mins. 59.8 secs.

Long Jump [Record (1944): 20ft. 10ins.] 1st, B. Cleverley (He); 2nd, J. Pywell (G); 3rd, N. Ward (Ha); 4th, M. Holliday (M); Dist. 18ft. 4in.

High Jump [Record (1937): 5ft. 6ins.] 1st, J. Morgan (He); 2nd, R. Scott (Ha); 3rd, M. Holliday (M); 4th, R. Hannan (Ha). Height 5ft. 1½ins.

Javelin [Record (1951): 153ft. 3½ins.] 1st, B. Cleverley (He); 2nd, P. Jones (He); 3rd, B. Thorp (Ha); 4th, A. Buckland (M). Dist. 141ft. 10in.

Discus [Record (1955): 121ft. 8in.] 1st, B. Cleverley (He); 2nd, J. Hobbs (He); 3rd, B. Thorp (Ha); 4th, B. Richardson (M). Dist. 133ft. NEW RECORD.

Shot [Heavier Shot used] 1st, B. Cleverley (He); 2nd, J. Hobbs (He); 3rd, M. Holliday (M); 4th, M. Deuchar (M). Dist. 45ft. 1in.

Hop, Step and Jump [New Event] 1st, M. Holliday (M); 2nd, M. Deuchar (M); 3rd, J. Rees (Ha); 4th, J. Little (He). Dist. 37ft. 7ins.

Hurdles [New Event] 1st, J. Pywell (G); 2nd, J. Flynn (Ha); 3rd, H. Phillips (He). Time 17.1 secs.

Relay: 1st, Milton; 2nd, Herschel; 3rd, Hampden; 4th, Gray. Time 49.0 secs. Winning team: M. Holliday, D. Spooner, B. Richardson, M. Deuchar.

Open Mile Handicap [Record (1954) 4 mins. 55.9 secs.] 1st, A. Henry; 2nd, J. Passler; 3rd, M. Elguezabel; 4th, P. Robinson.

Class II.

100 Yards [Record (1948): 11.6 secs.] 1st, A. Alderman (He); 2nd, C. May (M); 3rd, J. Jeffries (He); 4th, D. Frazer (Ha). Time 11.3 secs. NEW RECORD.

220 Yards [Record (1948): 25.4 secs.] 1st, A. Alderman (He); 2nd, C. May (M); 3rd, R. Thomas (He); 4th, J. Jeffries (He). Time 25.45 secs.

440 Yards [Record (1953): 60.9 secs.] 1st, R. Thomas (He); 2nd, C. Summerhayes (M); 3rd, E. Clements (He); 4th, R. Burke (M). Time 59.2 secs. NEW RECORD.

880 Yards [Record (1951): 2 mins. 27.2 secs.] 1st, C. Summerhayes (M); 2nd, E. Clements (He); 3rd, R. Burke (M); 4th, B. Blackford (G). Time 2 mins. 16.9 secs. NEW RECORD.

Long Jump [Record (1949): 17ft. 10½ins.] 1st, R. Thomas (He); 2nd, J. Jeffries (He); 3rd, D. Frazer (Ha); 4th, R. Burke (M). Dist. 15ft. 8ins.

High Jump [Record (1953): 4ft. 9ins.] 1st, B. Deuchar (M); 2nd, A. Colcomb (G); 3rd, R. Stevens (G); 4th, K. Lane (He). Height 4ft. 9½ins. NEW RECORD.

Javelin [Record (1955): 130ft. 8ins.] 1st, J. Jeffries (He); 2nd, C. May (M); 3rd, V. Shemmans (Ha); 4th, D. Freeman (Ha). Dist. 121ft. 9ins.

Discus [Record (1951): 111ft. 4ins.] 1st, A. Colcomb (G); 2nd, D. Freeman (Ha); 3rd, B. Bennet (He); 4th, V. Shemmans (Ha). Dist. 103ft. 1in.

Shot [Record (1953): 52ft. 1in.] 1st, D. Freeman (Ha); 2nd, A. Colcomb (G); 3rd, B. Bennet (He); 4th, R. Chaplin (M). Dist. 32ft.

Hurdles [New Event] 1st, R. Thomas (He); 2nd, R. Stevens (G); 3rd, D. Freeman (Ha). Time 11.2 secs.

Hop, Step and Jump [New Event] 1st, B. Deuchar (M); 2nd, P. Johnson (He); 3rd, R. Thomas (He); 4th, R. Stevens (G). Dist. 34ft. 5½ins.

Relay: 1st, Herschel; 2nd, Milton; 3rd, Gray; 4th, Hampden. Time 51.25 secs. Winning Team: R. Thomas, K. Lane, J. Jeffries, A. Alderman.

Class III.

100 Yards [Record (1948): 11.9 secs.] 1st, H. Froggat (Ha); 2nd, J. Reid (He); 3rd, M. Elguezabel (Ha); 4th, B. Hill (G). Time 12.55 secs.

220 Yards [Record (1949): 27.5 secs.] 1st, H. Froggat (Ha); 2nd, M. Elguezabel (Ha); 3rd, C. Hellmuth (M); 4th, B. Hill (G). Time 28.6 secs.

Long Jump [Record (1948): 15ft. 8½ins.] 1st, C. Cook (G); 2nd, I. Hodgson (He); 3rd, J. Le Page (He); 4th, M. Head (Ha). Dist. 13ft. 11ins.

High Jump [Record (1951): 4ft. 5ins.] 1st, M. Head (Ha); 2nd, I. Hodgson (He); 3rd, C. Martin (M); 4th, C. Cook (G). Height 4ft. 5ins. RECORD EQUALLED.

Shot [Record (1951): 44ft. 2ins.] 1st, P. Read (He); 2nd, G. Taylor (M); 3rd, I. Hodgson (He); 4th, R. Hill (Ha). Dist. 40ft. 7½ins.

Hurdles [New Event] 1st, I. Hodgson (He); 2nd, C. Cook (G); 3rd, V. Hill (G); 4th, V. Malone (M). Time 10.7 secs.

Hop, Step and Jump [Record (1950): 30ft. 3in.] 1st, M. Elguezabel (Ha); 2nd, J. Reid (He); 3rd, M. Head (Ha); 4th, I. Hodgson (He). Dist. 31ft. 3½ins. NEW RECORD.

Relay: 1st, Herschel; 2nd, Hampden; 3rd, Gray; 4th, Milton. Time 56.9 secs. Winning Team: Hodgson, Sitie, Read, G. Thomas.

WINNING HOUSES—Class I: Herschel, 111 pts. Class II, Herschel, 98 pts. Class III, Herschel, 74 pts.

HOUSE CHAMPIONSHIP: 1st, Herschel, 283 pts.; 2nd, Milton, 201 pts.; 3rd, Hampden, 194 pts.; 4th, Gray, 161 pts.

ATHLETICS MATCH v. Windsor County School and Slough Technical School. (S—School, W—Windsor, T—Technical).

The triangular match proved to be highly exciting, with the School gaining a narrow victory over Windsor.

Seniors.

100 Yards: 1st, (W); 2nd, (W); 3rd, Cleverley (S).

220 Yards: 1st, (W); 2nd, M. Deuchar (S); 3rd, P. Pywell (S).

440 Yards: 1st, (W); 2nd, (W); 3rd, (T).

880 Yards: 1st, (T); 2nd, (W); 3rd, Bester (S).

Mile: 1st, (T); 2nd, (W); 3rd, Passler (S).

Hurdles: 1st, Pywell (S); 2nd, (T).

High Jump: 1st, Morgan (S); 2nd, (T); 3rd, (W).

Long Jump: 1st, (W); 2nd, (W); 3rd, Little (S).

Hop, Step and Jump: 1st, (W); 2nd, Holliday (S); 3rd, Little (S).

Discus: 1st, Hobbs (S); 2nd, Thorp (S); 3rd, (W).

Shot: 1st, Thorp (S); 2nd, (T); 3rd, Hobbs (S).

Javelin: 1st, Cleverley (S); 2nd, Jones (S); 3rd, (W).

Relay: 1st, Slough Grammar School.

Juniors:

100 Yards: 1st, (W); 2nd, Alderman (S); 3rd, (W).
 220 Yards: 1st, (W); 2nd, Alderman (S); 3rd, (W).
 440 Yards: 1st, (T); 2nd, Summerhayes (S); 3rd, (W).
 880 Yards: 1st (T); 2nd, Summerhayes (S); 3rd, Burke (S).
 Hurdles: 1st, Thomas (S); 2nd, B. Deuchar (S); 3rd, (T).
 High Jump: 1st, (W); 2nd, B. Deuchar (S); 3rd, (W).
 Long Jump: 1st, (W); 2nd, (W); 3rd, Jefferies (S).
 Hop, Step and Jump: 1st (T); 2nd, Johnson (S); 3rd, Monks (S).
 Shot: 1st, (T); 2nd, Freeman (S); 3rd, (W).
 Discus: 1st, (W); 2nd, (W); 3rd, Colcomb (S).
 Javelin: 1st, (W); 2nd, (W); 3rd, Freeman (S).
 Relay: 1st, Windsor County School.

MATCH RESULT: 1st, Slough Grammar School, 101 pts.; 2nd, Windsor County School, 93 pts.; 3rd, Slough Technical School.

DISTRICT AND COUNTY SPORTS.

A notable improvement at the District and County Sports, the latter this time being held at Slough, was in the 13-15 years class. Our records here were confined to field events, P. Jones, B. Thorpe and B. Cleverley taking a Javelin, Shot and Discus record respectively.

DISTRICT SPORTS.*15-17 Years:*

100 Yards: 3rd, R. Burrows; 4th, J. Flynn.
 220 Yards: 1st, M. Deuchar; 2nd, J. Pywell.
 440 Yards: 2nd, M. Deuchar.
 880 Yards: 2nd, R. Bester; 3rd, A. Henry.
 Mile: 1st, J. Passler; 4th, N. Gillard.
 Hurdles: 1st, J. Pywell; 3rd, J. Flynn.
 Long Jump: 1st, D. Arthur; 2nd, N. Ward.
 High Jump: 2nd, M. Holliday; 4th, R. Hannam.
 Hop, Step and Jump: 1st, M. Holliday; 2nd, R. Bester.
 Shot: 4th, D. Harding.
 Discus: 2nd, A. Henry; 3rd, M. Parkes.
 Javelin: 1st, P. Jones; 2nd, J. Daly; **NEW RECORD** (160ft. 5ins.).
 Relay: 1st, R. Burrows, J. Flynn, J. Pywell, M. Deuchar.

13-15 Years:

100 Yards: 1st, A. Alderman.
 220 Yards: 2nd, A. Alderman; 3rd, R. Thomas.
 440 Yards: 3rd, E. Clements.
 880 Yards: 2nd, C. Summerhayes; 3rd, R. Burke.
 Hurdles: 1st, R. Thomas; 2nd, B. Deuchar.
 High Jump: 2nd, B. Deuchar.
 Hop, Step and Jump: 2nd, P. Johnson.

11-13 Years:

100 Yards: 4th, R. Stevens; 5th, H. Froggatt.
 220 Yards: 5th, K. Lane.
 High Jump: 1st, R. Stevens; 3rd, M. Head.
 Long Jump: 2nd, M. Taylor.

COUNTY SPORTS.*17-19 Years:*

100 Yards: 4th, J. Rees.
 440 Yards: 4th, J. Wynne-Jones.
 Mile: 4th, B. Richardson.
 Hop, Step and Jump: 3rd, J. Little.
 High Jump: 2nd, J. Morgan.
 Javelin: 1st, B. Cleverley; 2nd, B. Thorp.
 Shot: 1st, B. Thorp; **NEW RECORD** (39ft. 10ins.).
 Discus: 1st, B. Cleverley; 2nd, J. Hobbs; **NEW RECORD** (128ft. 3ins.).

15-17 Years:

440 Yards: 1st, M. Deuchar.
 Hurdles: 1st, J. Pywell.
 Discus: 1st, A. Henry.
 Hop, Step and Jump: 3rd, M. Holliday.

13-15 Years:

100 Yards: 1st, A. Alderman.
 220 Yards: 3rd, A. Alderman.
 880 Yards: 3rd, C. Summerhayes.
 Hurdles: 2nd, R. Thomas; 3rd, B. Deuchar.

ALL ENGLAND SPORTS.

The following boys were chosen to represent Bucks at Plymouth, and we heartily congratulate them on their high standard of performance and on the great honour they brought to themselves and the School:-

17-19 Years:

Discus: J. Hobbs, placed 7th and awarded a standard medal; B. Cleverley.
 Shot: B. Thorpe.

15-17 Years:

Hurdles: J. Pywell, awarded a standard medal.
 440 Yards: M. Deuchar.

13-15 Years:

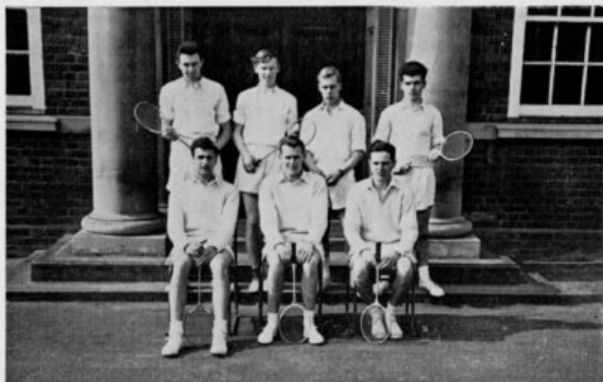
100 Yards: A. Alderman.
 Hurdles: R. Thomas.



School Members who represented the County at the ALL ENGLAND SPORTS. Left to right, back row: B. Thorp, J. Hobbs, J. Pywell. Front row: M. Deuchar, A. Alderman, R. Thomas, B. Cleverley.

(Photograph by courtesy of The Slough Observer)

BADMINTON TEAM



Left to right, back row: G. A. D. King, J. A. Wynne-Jones, B. Richardson, D. G. Arthur. Front row: M. A. W. Deuchar, M. J. Spinks (Captain), J. E. Morgan.

FOOTBALL INTERMEDIATE ELEVEN



Left to right, back row: N. Wakeham, J. Marks, T. Yeomanson, M. Lewis, R. Curry, K. Haines. Front row: K. Folker, E. Foster, M. Elguezabel (Capt.), B. Carver, B. Antill.

BUCKS COUNTY A.A.A. CHAMPIONSHIPS.

Three of our boys entered themselves for the A.A.A. Championships and are to be congratulated on their achievements, which are a tribute to the School:

B. Thorp, retained title as County Junior Shot Champion. Dist. 40ft. 11ins. Also 4th in Discus.

J. Hobbs, became County Junior Discus Champion. Dist. 121ft. 8ins. Also 4th in Shot.

B. Cleverley, 2nd in Shot; 2nd in Discus and 4th in Javelin.

MAIDENHEAD ATHLETICS CLUB MEETING.

At this meeting for schools in the district, the School was very successful; the two teams entered, in the 13-15 and 15-18 age groups, both won their respective classes.

ATHLETICS COLOURS.

Colours were rewarded to the following boys for their achievements during the athletic season:

J. Hobbs, B. Cleverley, B. Thorp, M. Deuchar, and full colours went to: J. Pywell, A. Alderman, R. Thomas and A. Henry.

Cricket, 1956

FIRST XI.

The team this season was led by C. Elliot as Captain, and S. Painter, Vice-Captain. Old hands from the previous year were S. Painter, J. Wynne-Jones, A. Buckland and B. Parsons, together with B. Pulsford, who came out of retirement to sit behind the stumps. The season was fairly successful, more games being won than lost, although there were one or two surprise results. The First Eleven played 14, won 6, lost 4, drew 4, with 1158 runs for and 1109 against.

Opponents.	Runs for	Runs against.	Result.
Maidenhead C.B.S.	66—9	60	Won
Ranelagh	99—9	64	Won
Windsor C.B.S.	42	30—1	Drew
		(rain stopped play)	
Sir William Borlase	47	48	Lost
Wycombe R.G.S.	111—8	156	Drew
Strodes	79	64	Won
Sir William Borlase	30	65	Lost
Henley G.S.	96—9	138	Drew
Slough Technical	57	58—8	Lost
Maidenhead C.B.S.	96—8	94	Won
Parents	140—9	97—9	Drew
Ranelagh.	60	62—4	Lost
West Drayton 3rd XI	137—8	92	Won
Staff	92	81	Won

The team made a good start by winning its first two games, but this success did not continue the whole season, although there were some good individual performances; more is said of these in another article. After a surprising and crushing defeat by Slough Technical, we had a hard fought match with the Parents' XI which, happily for us, ended in a draw. The Parents' team was the strongest and keenest for some years and the result satisfied everybody. Unfortunately, the match with the Old Pals had to be cancelled because of rain, although the joint annual fete, which helped take our minds off our cheated victory, was able to be "moved" to the School Hall.

One Sunday, the team, with Messrs. Mills, Sonnex and Gibbs, played against West Drayton 3rd XI, and with Mr. Sonnex making a "flashing" 30 and S. Painter 47 not out, the School declared at 137 for 8. Not much headway was being made against West Drayton's batting until Mr. Mills came on to bowl his famous "tweakers". Starting with two acrobatic catches by Mr. Gibbs, placed only a few yards from the bat, Mr. Mills went on to take a match-winning 6 wickets for 15 runs. The Staff Match was won as usual, but by only 11 runs, which was too close for comfort; this, also, is described later.

Heading the batting averages were J. Wynne-Jones, 17.18; S. Painter, 14.55 and C. Elliot, 10.46. For the bowling there were A. Buckland, 7.11; D. Middleton, 7.58; S. Painter, 8.52 (Painter and Buckland took 34 wickets each). B. Pulsford as wicket-keeper stumped and caught many victims. Thus, altogether, the season was thoroughly entertaining, but we hope next season will be more successful.

A. N. BUCKLAND.

REPORT ON INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCES.

The outstanding batsman was J. A. Wynne-Jones and it is pleasing to realise that he remains at School to captain the side in 1957. His approach to the task of opening the innings was delightfully refreshing and many times he scored at a very fast rate to give the side a good start with some fine attacking stroke play. Without question, the finest innings of the season was his 71 against Maidenhead—71 scored out of a total of 85 for 8 wickets while he was at the wicket.

C. Elliot, the Captain, played several forceful innings and often set a splendid attacking example when the position was grim. Most notable of these were two efforts against Egham and the Staff, when his vigorous hitting turned the tide completely.

S. T. Painter performed nobly as Vice-Captain and showed a marked improvement with the bat. Often No. 11 the previous season, he concentrated to such effort that he played several invaluable innings at No. 4 or 5. In addition, he bowled himself into the ground when necessary and returned many good performances with the ball, notably his 7 wickets for 25 runs against Borlase.

A. N. Buckland was our stock slow bowler and those who saw the game at Egham will never forget his sustained effort, culminating in a hat-trick in the last over to snatch victory for his side when a draw seemed inevitable. His final analysis of 6 wickets for 17 runs was a fitting reward for intelligent fighting and spinning allied to first-class control of length and direction.

D. G. Arthur, at No. 2, revealed a stout defence and played several stubborn knocks. He should be a distinct asset in 1957 when additional experience may enable him to develop his attacking strokes. Our hopes for the coming season must also extend to S. Hyde who failed to fulfil his obvious promise in 1956 until he blossomed forth with a good innings of 35 not out against the parents.

A. Lewis always fielded well and batted steadily but unfortunately often got out when looking comfortably set with his score in double figures.

The find of the season was, without doubt, R. J. Hannam, who revealed a magnificent eye and tremendous hitting power. With a little more discretion in the choice of the right ball to hit he would have been devastating.

D. Middleton bowled well on occasions, notably against Borlase and the Parents, but was inclined to be erratic. He did not really fulfil expectations with the bat although he enjoyed some moments of hard hitting. Nevertheless, he fielded admirably and was a genuine all-rounder of much promise.

Despite showing a slight falling off towards the end of the season, B. Pulsford was potentially the finest wicket-keeper we have had for some years. Buckland, in particular, must have been grateful for his many stumpings.

Others who played in several matches were J. E. Morgan, whose bowling of slow spinners was very useful on the batsman's paradise at Wycombe; J. G. Clarke, who unfortunately never really got going in matches, although he looked extremely good in the nets; and D. Spooner, the Second XI Captain, who always fielded very well.

THE STAFF MATCH.

School 92 (Elliot 20, Hannam 16, Middleton 16; Mr. Doncaster 6 for 56, Mr. Mills 4 for 28).

Staff 81 (Mr. Gibbs 22 not out, Mr. Mills 15, Mr. Street 12; Middleton 5 for 15).

Wynne-Jones and Arthur opened the batting for the School, and Mr. Mills put Mr. Doncaster and Mr. Gibbs on to bowl. The former soon had the School in trouble with his slow left-arm spinners, dismissing stonewall Arthur and then Lewis, who scored fourteen runs, including three boundaries. This decided Mr. Mills, although Mr. Gibbs was settling down to good fast bowling, to put himself on to bowl. It was his medium spin that dismissed Wynne-Jones, just as he was beginning to look comfortable with fifteen runs to his credit. At number seven, in came Hannam, the hitter of the team, and we felt we were in for some entertainment. True to form, his first hit was a six which, reinforced with some fours and another six by Elliot, who soon joined him, put the total up quickly from 5 for 38 to 6 for 63. In spite of this, no one up till now had enjoyed the spin pair and it became the duty of Middleton to play them confidently. However, what is called the luck of the game caused a superb catch by Mr. Mills at silly mid-off to dismiss him, a shot which in school cricket would have been a certain four and a catch which would have done credit to the Australians. The only catch to compare was when Middleton caught and bowled Mr. Street in the Staff innings, stopping the ball above his head and falling back to catch it just before it reached the ground. Mr. Mills brought the innings to a close by bowling Buckland, with Jones at his rather too familiar score of nought not out. The innings had progressed at an entertaining rate of one run a minute.

The Staff innings opened with Mr. Mills and Mr. Sonnex, the former starting extremely confidently against the opening bowlers, Jones and Middleton—he hit three fours and a single in the first two overs. Mr. Sonnex began quietly and it was rather a surprise when Jones bowled him in the fifth over. Unfortunately, Jones became erratic during his next two overs and was replaced by Buckland, who had Mr. Mills in trouble on his first ball; not to be outdone, however, it was Jones who caught Mr. Mills on the boundary off this tempting bowl from Buckland. Though only one more wicket fell to Buckland, this success marked the beginning of an extremely steady spell of eleven overs for only thirteen runs. Meanwhile, Mr. Street had been showing himself surprisingly apt against Middleton and, with Mr. Gibbs, then brought the score from 19 to 42 before the third wicket fell. At this stage Mr. Gibbs startled the school by leaving his innings incomplete in order to attend an important committee meeting. Middleton continued to spell disaster for the Staff and a collapse followed. At 6 for 44 Elliot felt confident enough to let some other bowlers take over. Nevertheless, a partnership between Mr. Knight and Mr. Richards, both of whom scored a boundary, enabled Mr. Gibbs, heralded by a 'chug-chug' from his Mini-motor, to arrive in time to continue his innings. The score was taken from 64 to 81, when the resistance was finally broken by Middleton, claiming Mr. Vivash as the last wicket of a magnificent spell in which three overs were maidens and two, wicket maidens. Mr. Gibbs returned from the wicket undefeated. Thus ended a thoroughly enjoyable and interesting match, played in ideal weather conditions.

J. MORGAN.

SECOND XI.

Captain: D. C. Spooner.

The Second Cricket XI had a very enjoyable season last summer, although several matches were cancelled due to bad weather. The first match of the season was played against Windsor in pouring rain. The School was dismissed for fifteen runs, Windsor reaching this score for the loss of only two wickets. Nevertheless, the School soon settled down to steady play and had some very close games with neighbouring schools. Marlow, especially, were narrowly beaten due to a "death or glory" drive by our last batsman.

The main fault in the side was batting; in each innings only a few batsmen were on form, the score remaining almost at a standstill once they were out. The main scorers were C. O'Donoghue, J. Pywell, F. Harpley and A. Rowe. The standard of bowling and fielding, however, was very good. O'Donoghue and Pywell were extremely consistent, with additional help from Rowe and Morgan.

Throughout the season a very friendly atmosphere was maintained, and this contributed in no small measure to a most interesting and enjoyable season.

D.C.S.

UNDER-FIFTEEN XI.

The 1956 season produced a good under-15 XI, which won six games, and lost four in its fixture list of ten games. The team reached the final of the Slough and District League Knock-out Competition, but failed to beat the Technical School (for the second time during the season) in a close game.

The strength of the team lay mostly in its bowlers, of whom the most successful were A. Watson, C. Makepeace, R. Dearlove, K. Antill and M. Simmonds. When he settled to steady bowling Watson proved very dangerous, and took 29 wickets for an average of 2.5 runs. Makepeace, who took 7 wickets in the game against Windsor, also proved dangerous at times, but all too often sacrificed accuracy of length and direction to speed.

K. Butler, who replaced Antill early in the season as Captain, acquitted himself well, and with experience behind him should do even better this year.

Other regular members of the team were P. and D. Robinson, C. Evans, R. Wallis and B. Bennett. A. Gibson, P. Read and M. Elguezabel frequently played for the under-15 team when not needed for the under-13 XI.

It is to be hoped that this year's XI will prove to be as keen as the 1956 team.

G.P.S.

UNDER-THIRTEEN XI.

The team was extremely successful, winning all 8 matches. This was most probably due to Mr. Knight, who gave up much of his spare time to coach us; it is unfortunate for the under 13 XI that they lost him at the end of the Summer Term when he emigrated to Canada.

Although the batting was never as good as the bowling, there was always someone to stop a collapse. P. Read and A. Gibson opened the batting on nearly every occasion, and were well backed up by M. Elguezabel at number three. P. Read took over from E. Marsden as wicket-keeper halfway through the season, but both were very reliable. M. Bainbridge and A. Gibson usually opened the bowling, aided by a number of good bowlers such as G. Bull, M. Elguezabel and B. Antill.

A notable achievement was the victory over the under 15 XI; this exciting game was won by the narrow margin of 1 run.

The keenness and team spirit contributed greatly to this season's brilliant success. It is to be hoped that such interest will be carried over to next year's team.

A. J. GIBSON, *Captain*.



Linocut by T. Ball, V.A.

FOOTBALL FIRST ELEVEN



Left to right, back row: G. Bayford, M. Holliday, F. Gore, J. Barker, C. O'Donoghue, I. Stewart. Front row: D. Harding, A. Henry, D. Windle (Capt.), D. Spooner, J. Clark, J. Freer.

HOCKEY FIRST ELEVEN



Left to right, back row: J. Wynne-Jones, D. Noble, R. Burke, D. Arthur, J. Morgan, S. Hyde. Front row: G. Hanson, F. Harpley, M. Deuchar (Capt.), M. Cousins, B. Deuchar.

Football, 1956-57

FIRST ELEVEN.

Results: Won 11. Lost 6.

With only one member of last year's 1st XI remaining, a new team has had to be built. Fortunately the team has been extremely well served by last year's Under 15 XI, those selected immediately settling down to the faster, harder, senior football.

Starting off the season with a match against the Staff, the team were somewhat surprised to find such tough opposition but eventually managed to win. The next match against Newlands Park set the mark on the spirit which existed in the team throughout the season. Fighting back from 3-0 down to 3-3, the School eventually lost 5-3 in one of the hardest and most enjoyable games of the season. Many fine victories were obtained during the season, amongst these being triumphs over Reading and Bristol University teams.

The notable factor was that, although there was always a high standard of individual play, the members played as a true team, which is the whole essence of football. J. Barker in goal had the complete confidence of the team from the very start and showed coolness and anticipation unusual for one so young. I. Stewart at full back was hard in the tackle and always used the ball to advantage. On the other flank F. Gore was cool and dependable. G. Bayford, a newcomer to the School, was a tireless worker at wing half. C. O'Donoghue was the complete centre-half, few centre-forwards finding their way past him. The high scoring forward line consisted of only six players throughout the whole of the season. D. Spooner served the team well, fitting in with the high speed at which the line moved. A. Henry, with a body swerve designed to foil any defender, although mostly laying on goals for others, frequently used his powerful shot to good advantage. D. Harding and M. Holliday, playing dual centre-forward roles, both showed fine anticipation and opportunism. J. Clarke fulfilled the promise he had shown in Junior teams and became the schemer of the side, also possessing a lethal shot in either foot. J. Freer, although small, relied upon his sound ball-control to beat his opponent.

Throughout the season D. Windle captained the side excellently and played very strongly at wing half. We congratulate him on being selected for the F.A. Schools' Week at Cambridge University.

SECOND ELEVEN.

With the Sixth Form often contributing half of the side, a very strong team was available to provide a firm start to a good season. Although the team suffered many changes, skilled football was consistent throughout the year.

A. Buckland and D. Cordery formed a secure defence behind a strong half-back line of J. Siney (Captain), flanked by D. Williams and J. Jefferies. The forwards varied from game to game, but the most regular were R. Keenan, T. Knight, M. Cousins and J. Wynne-Jones.

On the whole, a pleasing season was enjoyed, the notable games being those with Reading University.

Mention must be made of J. Pywell, T. Ball, D. Evans and D. Walton, who gave of their best as valuable aids in times of need.

J. SINEY, UVI.

UNDER 15 ELEVEN.

This year's team was, unfortunately, not so successful as last year's. Ten games were played, 8 being won and 2 lost, the latter both being against Haymill, to whom we came second in the league.

K. Antill captained the side at centre-half. In goal, K. Butler played exceptionally well against fast forwards who often dwarfed him. The full-backs were chosen from P. and D. Robinson and P. Read, who always played very cool games. Likewise, B. Picton, E. Hill and I. Hodgson all played

extremely well as wing-halves. A. Gibson and T. Turner were good on the wings, especially the former who, with P. Read, represented Slough and District in the Bucks XI. R. Dearlove, R. Stevens and M. Elguezabel played accurately together, especially if the defence was liable to panic. R. Thomas, at centre-forward, rounded off the attacks with some very good shots and was top scorer with about half of the team's goals to his credit. We scored 30 goals for, with 9 against.

M. Elguezabel must be congratulated on the way he helped the team at the end of the season when P. Read was unfit to play.

The Rebel Shield team was unfortunate in being beaten in the semi-final by Haymill.

K. ANTILL.

INTERMEDIATE ELEVEN.

The under 13 XI had a successful season, due mainly to the excellent coaching by Mr. Gibbs and the good choice of players by Mr. Doncaster.

T. Yeomanson strengthened the side when he took over as goalkeeper early in the season. The two backs, K. Folker and R. Curry, soon played well together. Wing halves N. Wakehan and B. Carter fed their forwards consistently; B. Antill was a tower of strength at centre-half and could always be relied on.

The two inside forwards, Elguezabel (who captained the team with success) and Haines, worked hard, feeding their wingers well and putting good through passes to Foster, who at centre forward scored a number of the goals. Lewis and Marks, the two First Form boys, had the most success on the wings.

M. Elguezabel, B. Antill and R. Curry were chosen to represent Slough and District against Reading.

Our thanks must go to R. Hill, R. Malone and C. Cook who, though not regularly in the team, were always ready to fill in any gaps that might appear.

The team played 10 games, won 8, drew 1 and lost 1, sharing top position in the league with William Penn. The semi-final of the cup was lost to the latter by 2 goals to 1, only after playing extra time.

M. ELGUEZABEL.

SIX-A-SIDE.

The sun greeted this year's Six-a-Side Tournament in such force that the winners were truly worthy of their victories. Exhilarating games were had by all, Staff Six included, which might well have won its game; as it was, the masters were again eliminated in Round 2. The winners were J. Clarke's team which, though the smaller side, were fast enough to defeat D. Spooner's Six.

Winning team: J. Clarke, J. Pywell, H. Steen, P. Wheeler, E. Smith and C. Evans.

In the Junior contest, A. Gibson's Six beat R. Steven's Six.

Winning team: A. Gibson, R. Hill, K. Hart, E. Husbands, K. Wallis and A. Oliver.

Those who watched this year's games must surely be grateful to all the footballers who provided such an entertaining contest.

Hockey, 1956-57

In spite of adverse weather conditions, which caused the cancellation of many fixtures, the Hockey XI enjoyed a successful season. During the year, the most notable game was the well-earned victory over Maidenhead in a vigorously contested match. Of 8 games played, 5 were won, 1 drawn and 2 lost. It should be noted that both losses occurred when one or more members

of the regular team were absent; nevertheless, those who took their places showed rapid improvement.

Once again we sent representatives to play for Bucks in the inter-county tournament at Seaford during the Easter holidays. These were M. Deuchar, M. Cousins, D. Noble, S. Hyde and F. W. Harpley. Those who went last year gained valuable experience from their games and thus provided a strong nucleus for this year's School team, which was almost intact from last season. For the most part, the team consisted of the aforementioned and R. Burke, G. Hanson, B. Deuchar, D. Arthur, J. Morgan and J. A. Wynne-Jones. However, from time to time, vacant places were filled by a few very able juniors who should gain permanent places in next year's team.

Our thanks are again due to W. Bradshaw who, at both School and practice matches, acted as umpire for the majority of the season.

J. A. WYNNE-JONES, UVI.

Rugby Club, 1956-57

Those would-be masters of the oval ball, the members of the Rugby XV, have conscientiously dedicated themselves to a season of hard practice but, having played 5 games against neighbouring schools, we have seen that our practice is not yet perfect; more work as a team rather than individual play is required, for sheer grit and determination alone is not adequate. In addition, we were unable to field the same team two fixtures running.

A notable improvement can be seen from the results towards the end of the season, especially in our victory against the Technical School. Thus we hope that this lack of success will not discourage future players and that they will "bind" together into a truly praiseworthy team.

Interest among the younger members of the School has been growing steadily and it is hoped to start a Junior XV next year.

Games played: v. Sir William Borlase G.S., lost 32-3; v. Slough Technical School, lost 15-3; v. Slough Technical School, lost 11-6; v. Windsor Grammar School, lost 9-6; v. Slough Technical School, won 6-3.

B. J. LONG, Secretary.

Cross Country Running

Seniors.

This has been a better season than last though the real enthusiasts remain rather few for a school of this size.

Of the five matches arranged the first two, held at home against Sir William Borlase's School, Marlow and R.N.C. Pangbourne, were both exciting races lost by a very narrow margin. There followed two rather crushing defeats, one in a triangular fixture over hilly ground at Marlow against Borlase's and R.A.F. Halton, and the other on a flat course at Uxbridge where we were outclassed by Bishopshalt and Royal Grammar School, High Wycombe, in a relay race of six 2-mile legs. In the final fixture, however, against Windsor Grammar School, we gained a long-awaited victory by three points. We needed this victory, narrow as it was, for a long run of defeats is dispiriting for any team.

The main strength of the team lay in R. Walmsley (Hon. Sec.), who came to us from the Technical College last September, and A. Henry. These two have run outstandingly well throughout the season gaining high individual places whatever the opposition. J. Passler (Captain), R. Burke and E. Clements have backed them up stoutly. Others who have run for the School and given of their best are: K. Ball, R. Bester, D. Jackson, N. Page, M. Parkes, S. Richardson, C. Summerhayes, W. Thomas and A. West.

Thanks are due to the energy and enthusiasm of the Captain and Secretary for the regular training runs they have organised; it is hoped that even more enthusiasts will follow their lead and do the necessary ground work next season.

D.S.M.

Under 15.

This year has not been so successful as was hoped. The two fixtures against Haymill resulted in wins for Haymill, 24-16 and 23-17. In the home fixture, E. Clements came 2nd and C. Summerhayes 5th, with B. Blackford a close 6th, while, away, our best positions were Blackford 3rd and J. Smith 6th. Between these came the County run at Aylesbury. R. Thomas set the pace at first, but the very muddy conditions gave the lighter boys a great advantage. P. Robinson finished 21st, with M. Elguezabel 36th and R. Thomas 39th, the School coming 6th out of 23 secondary schools—not by any means a bad result.

At the district run held at Eton the team finished fourth; a large area of mud near the start provided a place for many to lose their plimsolls. Summerhayes came 12th in spite of running with only one plimsoll, and the rest of the team were close behind, all finishing in the first 30 runners. D. Thomas was 18th, J. Smith 23rd, and G. Lynn 29th.

Under 13.

The under 13 Cross-Country team has had a very good season. Both fixtures against Haymill were won. M. Elguezabel and C. Cook on both occasions took 1st and 2nd places respectively. At Haymill, all four leading positions were gained, with Elguezabel leading the team by 400 yards. Elguezabel was chosen to represent the under 15 team at Aylesbury.

In the District run, Elguezabel ran a tremendous race to finish 2nd, but the rest of the team were so far behind that the team was unfortunately unplaced.

It is to be hoped that more boys will take a serious interest in this exhilarating sport.

C. SUMMERHAYES

Swimming

Last year's Intermediate Gala was held too late for details to be included in the 1956 *Swan*. We did very well, with high places in many events, and finished in 3rd place only 2 points behind William Penn, who were this year one point behind Windsor House. The team consisted of R. W. Robinson, G. Thomas, B. Cargill, M. Bainbridge, R. Hill and A. P. Smyth.

A. Watson and J. Bambridge were selected to join the "area" team sent to the All-England Schools' Championships and B. A. Thomas was awarded a County Badge for his fine performances in the previous year.

Our team for the Senior Gala last December was again unable to jolt William Penn out of the lead—they took 40 points to our 17! Watson gained a 1st in the Breast-stroke race with a record time (54 secs.) and 4th place in the Diving, 2nd place in each of the team races giving us the remainder of our points.

Much the same pattern shows in the results of this year's Intermediate Gala. We were again 3rd, but this time well behind the leaders. A. P. Smyth gained most of our points with 1st place (and record time 28.7 secs.) in the Breast-stroke race and 1st place in the Breast-stroke style event; M. J. McCrory was 4th in the Diving. The other members of the hard-working team were B. N. Hynam, E. P. Lucas-Smith, D. Perkins, D. Ray and G. G. Thomas.

In the Swimming Club, we are, it seems, always looking forward to the next Gala; it is surely not too much to hope that our new arrangements for training each week will produce as many as 10 strong swimmers for each team—out of 150 boys in each age group. That coveted 1st place still eludes us—what about it, swimmers?

The Rowing Club

Although at the beginning of this school year only two members of the club remained, reinforcements soon came in the shape of Fifth and Sixth Formers. This year the club has been quite active, and we soon hope to attain a standard at which it will be possible to take part in inter-school competitions. Moreover, the games period on Wednesday afternoon is not the only time when members can receive instruction, for the boats, and instructors, are available at the week-end. Accordingly, taking advantage of the facilities provided by the Eton Excelsior Rowing Club, several members have been able to continue their training on Sunday mornings, and it is hoped that this practice will spread to all members.

We are all grateful to Mr. Colombo for his guidance and encouragement, without which the club would not be able to function, and to the Eton Excelsior Rowing Club for the use of their premises and equipment.

P.E.L.

Badminton Club, 1956-57

Captain: M. J. Spinks; Secretary: J. E. Morgan; Treasurer: D. G. Arthur.

The Badminton Club, now in its fifth year, has continued to grow and flourish. As a result, the membership has again been confined to the Sixth Form; lack of space is another factor which necessitates this. Playing time has been reduced due to the shortened lunch break, but the high standard of play has been maintained.

The team has had a most successful season, winning 8 matches and suffering only 1 defeat. In addition, a singles match at the Licensed Victuallers was lost only after a hard tussle. The team comprises M. J. Spinks, M. A. W. Deuchar, J. A. Wynne-Jones, D. G. Arthur, J. E. Morgan and B. Richardson or G. A. D. King. Our thanks are extended to D. Spooner, A. Rowe and R. Bester, who also turned out to play for us.

M. J. SPINKS, Captain.

Physical Training Display

A physical training display organised by Mr. Gibbs and including this year a match between the gym clubs of Slough Grammar School and Windsor County School for Boys, was held in the School hall on Wednesday, April 3rd, at 7 p.m. The event was extremely well patronised by parents and friends and the hall was filled to capacity.

The evening began with the inter-schools match consisting of vaulting and other agility exercises using the buck, box and mattress. Competition between the contestants was keen but the school were easy victors. Grateful thanks are accorded to Mr. Franks the County P.T. Organiser for his help in adjudicating. Mr. Luck, former School P.T. instructor, was also present and awarded the Luck Cup to Alan Henry who achieved the best individual score.

The remainder of the evening was devoted to demonstrations of field games and athletics by senior boys, and members of the junior school contributed to the display by certain other agility exercises and group work, all of which reached a high standard.

An enjoyable evening was completed by the enthusiastic Morris Dancers led by Mr. Doncaster whose display was as proficient as previous ones although the team was largely composed of new members.

B.K.R.W.

A School Anthology

[As mentioned in the Editorial we are giving prizes this year for the best entries in prose, verse and art (including photography). The winner in the prose section is W. Carter for his taut, well-constructed story "The Perfect Crime." The prize for the best verse goes to J. R. Little from whose prolific pen we print three widely differing pieces. In the art section the award is shared by R. Bowers and R. Bester for their creditable photographs of American Scenes, and of the School production of *The Merchant of Venice*, respectively.

In last year's edition we printed as an original contribution a poem called "Blanket Bound." We have since found out that this was not original, being, in fact, an exact copy of Olive Dehn's poem of the same title. In thus publicly acknowledging its true authorship we wish to apologise for this regrettable incident and appeal to future contributors to show a proper integrity in submitting articles.]

The School Choir

(This was originally intended as the regular Choir report. Its incomprehensibility, however, forced its relegation from the lofty banality of the Society section.—Ed.)

THE CHOIR has found a new and sustained impetus in its activities in the personage of Mr. Wilson, the School's recently instated Music Master. His keenness has stimulated the nightingales—and the crows—to burst into song more frequently. The early morning meetings, when the frogs come up from the depths, at first proved too much for some of the dawn chorus: the worms remained intact. But now the cocks are crowing on time, and only the ring-leader, Napoleon, and a few of his piglet friends prefer the warm comfort of the sty.

Besides the pre-school worship of Orpheus, the cult requires frequent mid-day ceremonies, reaching a frantic climax towards the time of the apotheosis of the *ricompensati* at the School Speech Day. Trembling trebles, albescent altos, tethered tenors and bittern basses "in serried ranks assembled" chant cacophonous canticles to congregations which condescend to clap.

"My Peter's in the choir: all the rest are out of tune."

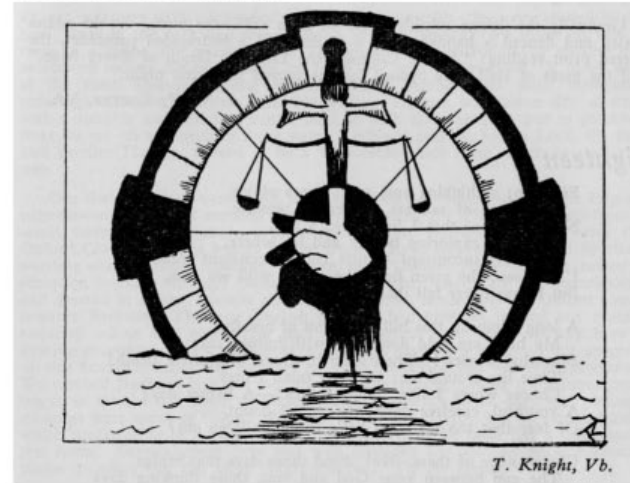
Dear demented can never face facts! However, to return to the choir from the applause of the audience: under the critical eye of the all-seeing relatives, the pathetic, self-conscious crew quails with quivering knees. After this ordeal, the routine rites are resumed, and few remember that such a thing as a choir exists. Fortunately, this has at last been remedied, for the songsters now take a leading part in the assembly each morning. This has proved fine practice for gaining confidence, for few things could be more nerve-racking than singing in front of one's schoolfellows.

A section of the choir, still under the aegis of Mr. Wilson, has broken away to form a madrigal group. Some members of the High School have plumped for the soprano and contralto parts, and the schools have thus joined forces, an unfortunately rare occurrence in this age of surface segregation which fosters occult integration.

"Hoo!" quod the Knyght, "good sire, namoore of this!", or else the choir will be advertising under "Situations Vacant".

GEORGE P. DALE.

The Perfect Crime



T. Knight, Vb.

IT WAS NEARLY time. For four long years he had awaited this moment, the chance to wreak his revenge on the man who had betrayed him; the man whose very soul he despised. In the helpless solitude of prison he had laid the foundations of the perfect crime he was now about to commit.

The rolling clouds shut out the late night sky, affording a vesture of dark comfort for the waiting killer. It was soon over. The glinting steel struck deep; the body rolled, then lay still but for twitching death. He stared with mingled satisfaction and uncertainty at his victim. The carefully scrutinised plans were now grim reality. All that remained to be done was the disposal of the only evidence, the corpse.

He had it all thought out. The sewage main above which he stood entered a large suction plant about eighty yards long, the bottom of which held a huge mesh to catch all submerged refuse. The mesh was cleared every two months, and had been cleared the previous week. After nearly two months under water, a body would be unrecognisable. He lowered the body into a dry overflow tunnel, carried it along to the main sewer and laid it at the water's edge. First he would go through the dead man's pockets, it might prove fruitful. They yielded nothing but a handkerchief, an almost empty wallet, and a religious pamphlet headed "Justice Counsels the Life and Death of Every Man." The murderer gave a dry laugh and tossed the pamphlet aside. The dank chambers threw back a mocking echo from every hidden corner. He kicked the lifeless form into the swirling water, watched as it was pulled under, then walked slowly back along the tunnel.

His footsteps rang a vibrating knell on the damp stone until another sound halted them. He listened, then realisation of the one thing he had overlooked lent his face the pallor of death. The overflow valves: they had been opened. He tried to think, but the terrified tumult of his mind would not collaborate with him. The ominous rushing gurgles enveloped his senses. He turned to run,

but his frenzied efforts were of no avail. The leaping, surging wall engulfed him, carrying him into the black depths.

Gradually the deluge subsided; the air grew still once more. In the eddies twisted and danced a handkerchief, a wallet, and a bedraggled pamphlet, the blurred print reading: "Justice Counsels the Life and Death of Every Man." And the gates of Hell were opened for the second time that night.

W. T. CARTER, VA.

Eighteen

Eighteen; a thinking age; some times of joy
And some of sadness, bitterness, remorse.
Now can I see that I have been a boy,
Learning, exploring beauty and its source,
Watching inconstant Nature run its constant course.
I have seen the green fields, heard the wild sea roar,
But I have never felt their unity before.

A long climb up this hill! I'm out of breath;
My heels are held down fast with human clay;
But what a view! There's birth; there life; there death!
Time lies around me: with my mind I may
Choose where I like. Choose then!—A happy day?
A youthful, carefree day? Or one of doubt,
Of fear that too too soon life's candle will go out?

Choose none of these. No! Find those days that bridge
The gap between your God and you, those thinking days
When you can walk along Time's narrow ridge
And let your mind transcend the clogging haze
Of carnal mediocrity. Let your soul gaze
Into the heart of Nature, beyond the skies:
Let Justice, Beauty, Truth and Love sink through your eyes.

J. R. LITTLE, UVI.

The Battlefield

The day was done, the battle won,
The site was body-strewn.
Many's the mother who'd lost her son
On that terrible afternoon.

The fight was long, the blood flowed strong,
Many had suffered death,
Many soldiers on either side
Had breathed their final breath.

And as the sun went down at last,
Ashamed to show his face,
The moon came up; her light held fast
Upon that dreadful place.

During the peaceful, silent night
The bodies were borne away,
Their friends then tried with all their might
To forget that ghastly day.

P. GARDNER, 2A.

Where There's Water There's a Way

IT ALL STARTED with a long day's ride to the Cotswolds, the canoe stowed in the boot, Buck in the back and myself, Alfie, driving the car. Our intention was to trace in a canoe, the course of the Thames from its source. After visiting one accredited source, Seven Springs, we made our way to Cricklade. A quick look at the small stream running inconspicuously behind some local farmhouse buildings convinced us that here Old Father Thames was rather dry to cope with a sizeable eighteen foot canoe. And so with no alternative but to go down river we set off in search of more water. Lechlade and St. John's Lock, the first lock on the Thames, proved to be a favourable place from which to start our trip.

Our first two days were spent languishing in that phenomena of the English summer—sun. We had reached Oxford after seeing the Thames develop from a small meandering stream to a fully mature river flowing gracefully over the Oxford Clay Vale. The beauty of the Upper Isis is unhappily marred by those wartime abominations commonly known as pill-boxes. After creating rather a sensation walking through Oxford with our rather startlingly red complexions and dressed in shorts, anaraks and bobble hats we headed up the Oxford Canal towards Banbury. The true English summer had now set in and our rapidly acquired colour was now being savagely attacked until we eventually bore a striking resemblance to a patchwork quilt. Rain eventually hindered our progress up this beautiful canal and eighteen hours in a sleeping bag was not uncommon. We reached Banbury late one evening and after photographing the famous cross began to retrace our steps to Oxford. Two extremely rainy days and pleasant evenings were spent at Pidgeon Lock on the canal. Nearby was an establishment which professed to be a public house but appeared to be more like a fisherman's rest home. Entertainment here was well provided for with an ancient gramophone grinding out the latest 'pop' number, "I'll be Home."

Once again on the Thames we continued our trip southwards. After passing through Day's Lock, Dorchester we climbed up to the ancient Briton camp of Sinoden overlooking the Vale of Oxford. We paused here for a while admiring the fine heat haze on the horizon. The two violent cloudbursts which followed drenched everything we possessed and our heat haze myth was rapidly shattered. We had reached as far as Benson near Wallingford when it was unanimously decided that the weather was no longer suitable for canoes—only ducks.

R. H. BESTER UVI.

Rush-Hour Hangover

(with apologies to G. M. Hopkins)

I caught this morning's autobus this mourn-
ful morning, work-harbinger, dodder-drawn mumbling motor mooching
Over gravel grovelling beneath it, belching smoke encroaching
High there; how it hops as the highway's torn
In its juddering—with a shoulder-mope, —shrug borne—
As a skate's tail whips wild on a tack-trek, whirling, screeching,
Tossed in the turmoil. My stomach's lurching;
Bane for no gain; the futility!—the value of a pawn!

Brute ugliness and froth for nought, oh, hot air, steam, well
Nigh stiffl! AND the fire that breaks from thee then, a million
Times more hot, more dangerous, than fumes from Hell.

No wonder at it: sheer plod makes air not chilly on
The engine's mustard embers. Then the bell:
The monster vomits passengers from pillion.

J. R. LITTLE, UVI.

The Truth About Proverbs

MANY SILLY people think that the proverbs were made up by humans—people like Shakespeare and Chaucer, I suppose.

This is all stuff and nonsense! They were written by one of *us*—some famous cat of olden times. After all, we have our famous ones, like Dick Whittington's cat, the cat from the "Owl and the Pussy-cat" and Puss-in-boots, haven't we, so why can't we have our Shakespeare too?

Now just think of all the proverbs you know, and you'll find we cats come into every one of them.

Here's four to begin with:

"A *cat* may look at a king."

"There are more ways of killing a *cat* than choking it with cream."

"When the *cat's* away, the mice will play."

"A *cat* has nine lives."



"Well, I must say that children *do* leap, but grown-ups never do . . ."

The word "cat" comes into every one of those, doesn't it? But even when we aren't called by name, it's very easy to see that we are meant, as in: "It's no use crying over spilt *milk*."

You notice that it's *milk*? If it had been meant for humans, it would have been tea, coffee or cocoa—or even gin, whisky or sherry!

Now here's one which proves by itself what I've said: "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush." It's nonsense to you, because whenever do you want a bird in your hand, except, perhaps, when you cut the canary's claws? But it's sense to *me*. Only it ought to be "paw" instead of "hand". I expect it was a misprint sometime.

"The early bird catches the worm"—yes, and "The early *cat* catches the bird." You can see why *that* was written; and then again the one about "A stitch in time save nine" must mean one of our nine lives, I'm sure, because *you* only have one.

"Look before you leap." Well, I must say that children *do* leap, but grown-ups never do, so it's much more suitable for Pussy & Co., isn't it?

"All are not goldfish that glitter."

What's that . . .? I've got that one wrong. . . .? Well! of all the . . .

Who's writing this?

Ah! Just a second . . . there's a mouse that I . . .



IAN D. STUART, IIIA.
(who also did the linocuts)

Walking in the Chilterns

WHERE ELSE can one find such a pleasant combination of springy turf and warm beechwoods, high ridges and deep valleys, and quiet villages and busy market towns, but in the Chilterns? In this perfect walking country, I have found any route will give great pleasure, but there is one walk I will always remember as having everything the hiker could wish for.

Leaving Saunderton Station to its meagre ration of a train every few hours, I climbed up a quiet lane, across a field of springy chalk-turf, and onto Bledlow Ridge. Certainly not undeserving of its fame, the Ridge provides three miles of fine views, all from a refreshing height of over 700ft. Where the road does not follow the summit, a path does, the latter often dipping into deep valleys. All too soon, however, I joined the lane which drops southwards to Radnage.

Most lanes in the Radnage area are of the "switchback" type, and this is no exception. After following the lane over countless hills, I was suddenly surprised to find myself looking down upon Radnage, with its old cottages and church.

The latter has much to be proud of, with good, early Norman work, and 13th century wall paintings. Most interesting, however, are the small window, and fine egg-cup font, dating from the time of the conversion of the village to Christianity (C.700A.D.).

Leaving Radnage behind, I doubled back over a very steep hill, and then took the path, through pleasant farm country, to Stokenchurch. An unlovely village, I soon left it behind and followed the valley into the woods above Ibstone. The path into Ibstone has recently been blocked by felled trees, and it was only with the loss of much sweat that I reached that village. The church, standing—strangely enough—at Hellcorner, is very primitive Norman.

From Ibstone the road is the one to Fingest. The view all along is fine, but suddenly I found myself looking down at one of the finest views I have ever seen. Away to the south was the Thames, glinting in the sun, while nearer were the grey roofs of Fingest, and directly below, 300ft. below in fact, was Turville. So entranced was I with the view, that I nearly missed the old windmill, which dominates the view from below. I reached Turville after an exhilarating scramble down the hill, and found it as sleepy as always, only a "furriner's" wireless breaking the silence. Most of the houses here are Elizabethan, and a fine old 18th century house at the end of the village is still regarded as an interloper. This is the finest Chiltern village I know, although there is much to be said for its neighbour, Fingest, a few minutes walk away.

The pound at Fingest, to which stray cattle were taken, is in good condition. The church is well placed, with its finely proportioned tower (60ft. high, 19½ft. square) whose twin-gable roof is one of the only two existent. The rest of the walk lies along the deep valley that leads down towards the Thames. The lane follows a fast, clear stream through such beautiful villages as Skirmette and Hambledon, the former joining the Thames at Mill End. What more fitting scene could there be to end such a day than the sun setting over the quiet, mill-backwater at Hambledon?

K. S. M. HALSTEAD, VA.

Equestrian Escapade

IT ALL BEGAN in the summer of 1954, when I spent my holidays on a farm in Devon. Here was my chance to learn to ride at a purely physical cost: no financial commitments. A couple of horses, a companion who could ride, and I was all set.

During the first painful ten minutes, I learned that the correct way to mount a horse was to approach from the side instead of furtively creeping up on it from behind, or leaping intrepidly on, Western style. The Cisco Kid had made it seem so easy. The horse's raised hind leg has a regrettable tendency to catch the unwary rider with a "cow kick". However, some quarter of an hour later I was up triumphantly in the saddle and turned proudly to my instructress, only to be greeted by a stern frown. "You're too rigid," she said. "Relax." I relaxed. After some quick massage I was soon ready to mount again, but my early enthusiasm was already beginning to wane. Eventually I acquired the correct grip with my thighs and knees. "Now watch," said my instructress. She pressed in with her knees and, easing the reins, murmured "Walk". Her horse obeyed. "Why" I thought, "Nothing could be easier." I went through the same actions and I too said "Walk". The horse sniggered. "Well, walk," I repeated. Taffy spotted a particularly appetising clump of grass and, bending down, began to crop. Patiently the girl helped me on again. After five minutes of walking, marvelling at my hidden ability, I leant forward and tightened my legs; we broke out into a trot. Drunk with success I pulled harder on the reins and applied my legs more vigorously; we were soon cantering. It was a strange sensation, rather like riding a bike with a puncture in the back tyre.

After several weeks spoilt only by the painful necessity of eating all meals standing up and waddling bandily through the town in the evenings, I reached the stage when the adjustment of my seat entailed little effort and no longer interfered with my bridle hand, and the great day came when I rode into the paddock to tackle the intricacies of the jumping course. I cleared the first fence beautifully. It was a pity Taffy didn't come with me. He trotted sedately round it, rejoining me at the other side. I caught the unsympathetic eye of my companion who, with a smooth continuous movement from the hips, proceeded to sail gracefully round the course in less than no time. Somehow I managed to clear the next fence, and the next. Gratified, I rewarded Taffy with a carrot. This worked well. The only drawback was that he insisted on stopping after each fence in anticipation of his reward. Nevertheless, if grace wasn't our strong point at least we didn't part company.

Not until last summer were Taffy and I ready for the public eye, although even I began to wonder, as we entered the ring. A seemingly vast sea of faces made me wish I had been a little less ambitious. The bell rang. I began my round. A murmur went up at my unorthodox style. I lost my cap at the first fence, which was a pity for I had spent some time in front of the mirror at home, practising doffing it to the applause which was to have greeted my clear round. The second fence was in the form of a road block with STOP in red capitals. The judges had obviously not reckoned with the abnormal intelligence of Taffy, who immediately halted in his tracks. I trotted him back and really let him have his head. We hurtled over this time and swept round in grand style, although the sound of falling poles was rather disconcerting. As we trotted out of the ring the announcement that we had totalled twenty-four faults did, I must confess, sound rather dampening, but at least, I reflected, the next Olympics are not until 1960.

I have plenty of time to practise.

R. F. H. COOPER, UVI.

Gilbert or Sullivan?

GILBERT or SULLIVAN—who was the greater? In the following parody of the Quartet from Act II of "The Gondoliers" Marco and Guiseppe, Tessa and Gianetta try to solve the question "in a contemplative fashion."

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| <i>All:</i> | In a contemplative fashion
And judicial frame of mind,
Free from every kind of passion,
Some solution let us find.
Let's review the whole position
Solve the complicated plot—
Whether poet or musician—
It matters quite a lot! |
| <i>Tessa:</i> | I support the witty poet
And I'll win if I have luck,
For I don't care if you know it,
I think Gilbert's quite a duck! |
| <i>Gianetta:</i> | I for the man who wrote the music
Will support until I'm done,
For it always makes me too sick
To see Gilbert take the bun! |
| <i>Marco:</i> | I am out and out for Gilbert,
And I'll wager, if I may,
Twenty shillings to a filbert
That I'm going to win the day! |

- Giuseppe:* Arthur S. has got my money—
And I haven't any doubt
That you'll look very funny
When we beat you out and out—
You'll look funny when we beat you out and out!
- Marco:* Gilbert's literary manner
Makes him master of affairs—
- Gianetta:* If I could but catch him
I'd pinch him and scratch him
For spoiling my Sullivan's beautiful airs!
- Giuseppe:* Sullivan's harmonious music
Fills the air with melodee—
- Tessa:* If I were a fighter
I'd batter the blighter
He isn't the equal of W.G!
- Gianetta:* Sullivan has lovely whiskers
(to *Tessa*) And the dearest kind of nose—
- Tessa:* If I could but get him
(to *Gianetta*) I'd black him and blue him;
And he'd look a sight from his head to his toes!
Gilbert parts his hair so nicely
And his necktie is a treat—
- Gianetta:* No matter, no matter,
(to *Tessa*) He's as mad as a hatter,—
And that's what I'd tell him if ever we meet!
- Gianetta:* No matter, no matter, etc.
Tessa: I'll black him and blue him, etc.
Marco: Wer'e going to win the, win the, win the day, etc.
Giuseppe: You'll look funny, funny, funny when we beat you, etc.
- All:* Whether Sullivan or Gilbert is the greater—we don't know!
(*Exeunt, pondering.*)
IAN D. STUART, IIIA.

A Skifflepoofer's Visit To See The Skiffle King

YOU FORCE the pedals round as fast as the rusty frame will stand, and scream down the road. You tear up the pavement, through the gate and down the passage, and hurl your bike into the shed. In through the back door, up the stairs for the best suit, back down the stairs again, and into the kitchen for a quick wash. Back into the dining-room for a hurried biscuit and gulped cup of tea whilst dragging your clothes on, and out through the front door with your jacket half off. Down the road again, and up to the bus-stop, where your friends are waiting.

Why the hurry?

Where are you going?—

You're off to see Lonnie Donegan.

The bus draws up, and you all clatter inside. The fares are soon paid, and before you can sing "Don't you rock me daddy-oh", you're at the theatre. You've got "butterflies" in your stomach; you're on the verge of seeing your idol, your own personal friend. Slowly up the marble stairs, awed by the

excited atmosphere. Into the carpeted foyer. You gaze about; your friends do likewise. The quiet is broken by a loud, cockney, "Three and sixes that way, four bobs this, please." You go that way. Then you're in your seat, chattering and laughing excitedly. The lights dim, the safety curtain rises slowly and sedately out of sight, and for the first time you notice the hot and smoky atmosphere common to every theatre. The stage lights glare brilliantly, and the show has begun.

Dancers, comedians, trick-cyclists, a group of singers and a calypso-singing pianist, and your hands are soon stinging with the applause. In no time the interval has passed, and the last act but one finishes. The applause dies away as a gentleman in a black evening suit comes up to the microphone. There is complete silence. He smiles, gazes round the audience. The hair at the back of your neck bristles; your hands become sticky with sweat; faintly you hear, "And now, ladies and gentlemen, the man you've all been waiting for. . . . LONNIE DONEGAN. . . ." Your heart thumps, your hair stands on end, you go hot and cold at the same time. The curtain rises swiftly. He's standing there—guitar and everything—Lonnie Donegan. Everything is lost in the clapping, screaming and yelling. You find yourself on your feet, laughing and cheering, clapping and stamping. The whole audience is on its feet; then you hear above it all, coming straight from HIM, not over the radio, television or gramophone, but straight from *him*:

"Now this is the story 'bout the Rock Island Line"

T. KNIGHT, V.B.

Phoenix-Flame

Soul-penetrating perfume speak to me;
New vulture talon thriving
On the torture of Japan.
The loser wins: your life is but a trice
Split second in the ever-during bloom.
I too give room
To yet another man;
I leave the library
And find a brilliance in the ever-living pool
Not mere reflection of the Universe,
A great abyss the hearse
Must seem to me poor mortal fool;
To you, gay ignorance, before
The thoughtless night.

Winter is rotting in his necessary sleep:
But birth will fade;
The skittish colt must soon become the broken jade.
Die, then! The dying fall will give you
Old Anchises strong, stern,
Borne on the shoulders of the dying Fall,
Born on the shoulders of the dying Fall,
To conquer,
Until the vast inferno
Bursts its rivets, shatters crashing steel
When men cannot control their power-child,
When it cracks wild
Lashing its mother breast.

Death brings new lives;
The black-cap thrives
On the sickled beech;
And each
Life
Dies.

J. R. LITTLE, U.VI.

America, 1956

Last summer I was invited by some American friends to visit the United States and to form my own impressions of the peoples and the vast country in which they live.

And so, on the evening of the 23rd June, I set off from London Airport on my great journey, which took me over 17,000 miles. Our giant Stratocruiser airliner touched down first at Manchester then at Glasgow, before beginning the journey across the Atlantic. The British Isles were quickly left behind and after only nine hours our plane landed at Sydney, in Nova Scotia. The country was dark and wild, with only a few scattered red and blue roofed cottages. Soon we were nearing New York, and as the plane circled Idlewild Airport, I was wondering just what New York was going to be like.

However, I had not long to wait, for I was soon in the bustle of this exciting city. The tall skyscrapers, combined with the omni-coloured traffic, were so impressive. I seemed to be continually looking upwards (the distinguishing mark of any visitor to New York), and I was only able to look down on the city by going to the top of the Empire State Building. It is, indeed, quite an experience to visit the Empire State—I shall never forget how we were "shot" upwards at about 25m.p.h. in an express "elevator" to the 55th floor! While in New York, I also visited the United Nations building and the famed Statue of Liberty. The United Nations building, with its awe-inspiring architecture, is a marvel of modern design. It even has a car-park for two thousand cars below ground. From the Statue of Liberty one can contemplate the city as a whole, far away from the noisy traffic and the overwhelming skyscrapers.

After a few days in New York we set out by car for East Lansing, in Michigan, where I stayed for the greater part of my visit. We quickly traversed the New England countryside by way of the "New York Thruway," a broad, four-laned highway on which an average speed of 60 m.p.h. can easily be maintained. There are no "intersections" or traffic lights to hinder the smooth flow of traffic, but instead, an efficient system of fly-overs. In a short while we had reached the U.S.-Canada border, and the beautiful Niagara Falls. After spending some time photographing and generally enjoying the scenery of this natural wonder, we moved on over the lower peninsular of Ontario into Michigan.

As we planned to make a trip to the Pacific coast, we remained in East Lansing for only a brief period before setting out again. We travelled northwards through the wooded and rather flat countryside of Michigan, across the Straits of Mackinac to the upper Michigan peninsular, seeing Lakes Michigan and Huron, and at length Lake Superior. We passed through the flat lands of Minnesota into the dry and desert-like country of North Dakota. Travelling over this multi-hued sandy "Badland" (named because it is so barren) of North Dakota we soon entered, a few hundred miles further on, the ranch country of Montana, with its characteristic sight of cowboys, and the excellent beef-cattle which roamed freely. In this type of country we often travelled for more than seventy miles without seeing a sign of civilisation.

Afar off we could see the Rocky Mountains and, as we approached, they gradually appeared bigger, until, when we entered Glacier National Park, they loomed majestically above us. Their snow-capped summits, with the blue ice-cold lakes nestling in the valleys, always made a picture of breath-taking beauty. One day we crossed the park on the "Going-to-the-Sun" highway (so aptly named by the Indians), and on another I had the very unusual experience of being present at an Indian "pow-wow"—that of a tribe of the Blackfoot Indians, of Montana, not to mention meeting with a few of the wild bears which roamed freely in the park and begged food from us.

After about a week in Glacier Park we turned northwards, crossing the Canadian border into Alberta. Here we noticed a marked difference in the roads. In these wild and little-inhabited parts of Canada the roads are nearly



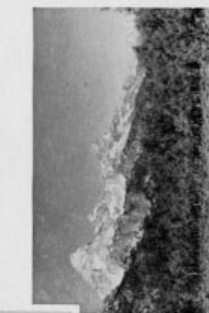
Mount Rushmore Memorial



Niagara Falls

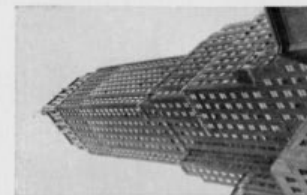


The Grand Tetons



Old Faithful

Skyscraper, New York



Rocky Mountain Scenery



Bears in Glacier Park

Yellow Falls and Canyon

Taken and compiled by A. R. Bowers, U.V.I



A group of Old Paludians on the site of the new pavilion during the laying of the foundations last summer.

always made of dusty clay, where one travels along in a cloud of dust. Nevertheless, we continued into Calgary, where we arrived in time for the famous Calgary Stampede. This was really exciting and, after watching a parade through the streets of Calgary of all those taking part, we settled into our seats at the arena to watch the cowboys vying with each other in such things as roping calves, "decorating" steers, or riding (trying to ride!) bucking broncos. In the evening, the climax of their show, the cowboys gave us a wonderful exhibition of chuck-wagon racing. A wagon outfit consists of a chuck wagon, (a provisions wagon used by cowboys on the range), drawn by four thoroughbreds, with four mounted outriders in attendance. The wagons lined up in centre field, and at the signal from the starter they had to make a complete "figure eight" and then head for the track and the thrilling half-mile dash round the arena. The fact that the winning outfit had to be complete with equipment and outriders gave rise to many amusing and exciting incidents. Even though the wagons sometimes overturned, the cowboys managed to escape uninjured.

However, we soon had to move on northwards from Calgary. When we had visited Banff, one of the few small towns which nestle in the Rockies, we crossed to the west side of the mountains into British Columbia, and then, turning south-westwards to re-enter the United States, we went through Spokane and past Seattle to the Cascade Mountains and the Pacific coast. I first saw the Pacific Ocean at a place called Seaside (appropriately named!), in Oregon State. It seemed so very blue, with huge white-capped breakers rolling on to the flat sandy beach. It was indeed a thrilling sight, and one which we may often read about, but not often see.

But we had to leave the Pacific and turn our eyes eastwards now, as we travelled along the banks of the great Columbia River, with its familiar sight of logs on their way to the mills. Eventually, a few hundred miles up stream, we departed from the course of the river to go southwards through the hot (sometimes over a hundred degrees), mostly level country of Idaho and Wyoming.

In Idaho we passed over some strange lava-beds, which gave one the impression of being on another planet. The folds of solidified lava, which could be seen for miles around, were very weird. Indeed, one part was called "Craters of the Moon" and here we saw how the lava had oozed up from the centre of the earth. It was very strange, and I must admit I was pleased to see "ordinary" land after that. We went on to the Grand Teton National Park, with its beautiful mountain range, and Yellowstone Park, in Wyoming, where we saw many other natural phenomena, in the way of boiling pools and geysers—"Old Faithful" being the most famous of these. After these interesting visits we returned fairly quickly to East Lansing, but this time via Chicago and the southern tip of Lake Michigan, reaching East Lansing at the end of July.

I stayed for about five weeks in East Lansing and in that time became quite accustomed to the American way of life. It is not really vastly different from ours, and it is not so lackadaisical as we might think. Although there are many (wonderful?) gadgets to help solve household problems, I think American life is generally more rushed, an American usually being very efficient but somewhat impatient. Their roads are generally good and fairly straight, (those in the New England states being more like ours), but American drivers do not seem to be as good as English ones. Speed limits of 60 to 65 m.p.h. are now enforced in most States to prevent excessive speed which is so easily obtained with the high-powered cars and straight roads. One thing that did impress me very much was that there were very often four rival "gas stations" on the corners of the same cross-road—and the comparative cost of petrol was about one-sixth of the cost of ours. Shops are much the same as ours, but one invariably has to buy groceries and provisions from supermarkets, which are cooled and air-conditioned for comfort in the summer. The food is somewhat different from ours, and the Americans eat more (and better) meat. I must admit I really enjoyed the "discovery" of the Hamburger—fried minced meat topped with a slice of onion, and mustard, all inside a toasted bun.

On the whole, American life is neither as glamorous nor as crime-pervaded as Hollywood makes out. I found the American people very friendly and willing to help me. Only occasionally did I have difficulty in making myself understood. Once I had great difficulty when I asked in a shop for some "corn" (which, incidentally, we call maize; it is a favourite food of the Americans), without stressing the "r". However, apart from these difficulties, my English "accent" sufficed.

While in East Lansing I met many new friends and saw many old ones, including Mr. and Mrs. Budde, who visited our school some years ago. At the beginning of September, however, after a magnificent holiday in the United States, I had to leave for New York to fly home. This time our plane took a different route, via Goose Bay, in Labrador.

When the American continent slid from sight before the setting sun, I felt quite sorry to be leaving it. But it will not be the last time I set foot on it, for such was my impression of the American way of life that I intend to return this summer to start my university career at Michigan State University.

A. R. BOWERS, Upper VI.

Lords

LORD MACAULAY once said that an acre in Middlesex was better than a principality in Utopia. Although his Lordship can have known little of the game of cricket, how well his words fit some of the most hallowed of all acres in that county—Lords, the scene of some of England's greatest Test triumphs. To see Lords at its best is to go on a Whit Monday, the second day's play of the traditional Sussex Whitsuntide fixture.

First impressions are of tall blank reddish brown walls separating the ground from the street, with the top of the practice nets just visible. Stretching far down the road the huge stands rise high above brick walls. Once through the turnstiles the genteel respectability of St. John's Wood is forgotten. It is twelve o'clock. An occasional roar greets a particularly fine stroke. We walk on round the ground, catching tantalising little glimpses of play between bookstalls, refreshment bars and grandstands until we come out amongst the free seats in brilliant sunshine. (Last year, you may remember, summer came and departed on Whit Monday). The vast arena stretches out before the eyes—yard upon yard of glorious green turf, contrasting vividly with three or four brown and scarred pitches in the middle of the field. The pavilion stands majestically at the far end, the gleaming white symmetry of the seats broken by the form of an occasional member. Middlesex are batting, facing a large Sussex total established on the previous Saturday. The belligerent play of Edrich, a pugnacious looking little man, contrasts violently with the cultured strokes of Robertson, a tall figure in the familiar dark blue cap. Play is quiet for a while but one is never bored at Lords. Every few minutes a polite patter of applause greets a maiden over until shortly before lunch a book from Eldrich causes considerable alarm among the pigeons on the grass in front of the pavilion. More applause greets the 100 partnership as the players come in for lunch. All around the ground there is the rustling of grease-proof paper. A family in the front row produces a cold chicken whilst my neighbour sets to work on a steak and kidney pie. Such vulgarities are not for the Pavilion and Grandstand spectators who have made a bee-line for the Tavern where they discuss details of play over liquid refreshment. Many of them have not emerged by 2.15 when the players return to the field. The strokes of the batsmen as they renew their innings give rise to certain speculation in the Mound Stand, where the more cosmopolitan section of the crowd is seated, as to what was on the menu. Robertson having departed, Edrich slices horribly at a full toss. Ribald cheers from the Mound Stand. Edrich shoots his barrackers with his bat. Much laughter from the Grand Stand. His inevitable dismissal soon comes, however, and wickets begin to fall with dismal regularity.

The batting experts of the Grand Stand shake their heads, mourning the absence of Compton. In the free seats behind the bowler's arm, however, are the bowling connoisseurs, quick to spot the occasional googly and now kept occupied by the repeated fall of wickets.

The Pavilion watches this sad performance in shocked silence. Interest is revived by the arrival of Robins, the Captain of Eton, whose father once captained Middlesex in the glorious era of the 30's. He gladdens their hearts by straightway showing his mettle with a lofted drive for 6 into the Tavern. But there is no reprieve. Middlesex must follow on. Tea, taken at 4.15, is but a brief respite. Wickets positively shower down—even the redoubtable Edrich fails this time. Disgruntled members retire once more to the Tavern to drown their sorrows.

Shadows begin to fall on the wicket, and as they lengthen the crowd begins to thin out. At a quarter past six on this fine summer afternoon Sussex beat Middlesex by an innings. But at heart the crowd is content: Nineteen wickets have fallen in a day. Middlesex have lost in best Lords tradition, playing strokes to the last. Nevertheless a parson in a Harrow tie behind me shakes his head, "Lords is not what it was," he says sadly, "Look at that litter." Paper blows across the ground as he points an accusing finger at coca-cola bottles and ice lolly sticks. "Coca cola!", he says in tones of revulsion, "Ice lollies." He shudders and picks his way disdainfully through the small boys who are fighting miniature battles with the air cushions, a favourite pastime after close of play.

I forgave the parson his uncharitable feelings. Perhaps the result was too much for him. As he disappeared out of sight down the steps I was reminded of the famous words of James Montgomery.

"A day in sincere enjoyment spent
Were worth an age of splendid discontent."

R. F. H. COOPER, UVI.

Continental Travels

STANDING AT Victoria in the rain gave me forebodings on my forthcoming travels. Yet at Dover the sun shone down, and as I stepped on the steamer, I felt we were off to a good start on the first leg of our journey, London—Ostende.

I had taken my *Kewells* and felt quite calm as we sailed into the night. As the time of arrival drew near I was rather excited at the prospect of my first view of a truly foreign land. This much-awaited sight resolved itself into the twinkling lights of Belgian coastal towns.

I do not know what I expected to see when I arrived but I felt let down; Ostende was quite like any other port and the people looked very ordinary. We arrived at the Youth Hostel to find it packed with English people, and although we had to sleep on the floor it was just like home. After a preliminary look at Ostende we set off for Brussels in glorious sunshine.

From this point on our mode of travel was hitch-hiking, and despite many arguments against it, it is an incomparable way of meeting the people of the country. We have now no small number of addresses of acquaintances made in this way. In the van that picked us up were three Flemish boys, one of whom spoke English. This was our first taste of conversing with foreign people. They informed us of the whereabouts of hostels and gave us useful tips on places of interest.

We checked in at the Brussels hostel and set out to explore the city, sight-seeing and window-shopping, visiting such places as the Hôtel de Ville and Palais de Justice.

Our next stopping place was a pen-friend's house near Liège in the country. Here we stayed with Belgian people. It was a great experience to live amongst them, and we found them kindhearted and generous. They piled enough food on a plate to satisfy a gourmet, and constantly offered more "haricot." This was washed down with an oft replenished glass of sweet beer. As they spoke no English, my French improved noticeably. They even made me read from a French Bible to them, and complimented my poor reading.

We sadly set off on our journey after two days, heading for the German frontier. At this time conversation was centred on the tragedy of "Les Marcinelles"; the whole country was alive with the news.

Just as we had eagerly awaited our first view of Belgium so it was with Germany. The German customs official greeted us with the questions, "Englanders? Any tea? Any coffee?" And with that we were through on our way to Cologne in the industrial Ruhr. I had heard of the bombing of Cologne and expected to see more damage than I did. Cologne cathedral has been substantially restored and modern buildings and roads have sprung up in place of the old.

After our brief stay in Cologne we set off, via Bonn, the capital of West Germany, for Koblenz on the edge of the Rhineland. The hostel at Koblenz is situated in the "impregnable" fortress of Ehrenbreitstein on a hill. It affords an excellent view of the Rhine for large stretches on each side of the junction with the Moselle.

The following morning we wandered around the town of Koblenz where I bought a pair of leather shorts which are much worn by German boys.

It was from here that we caught the steamer which was to take us through the most famous part of the Rhine, the hilly region between Koblenz and Wiesbaden. On either side rise terraced hillsides, with vineyards almost to the top, where stand the ancient castles of medieval barons. Almost every other hill or spur has its own fortress from which armed men could sweep on to the heavily laden merchantmen and exact dues. Besides its scenic attractions the Rhineland has many legends surrounding it, not least of which is the tale of the Lorelei, the rock overlooking the river, where a beautiful maiden sits, luring the fisherman on to the rocks with her siren voice. At Wiesbaden we stayed with a German family for two days; this was another memorable experience.

Our next objective was Heidelberg, one of the university towns. It has a lovely setting with a castle amongst the hills behind the town, which is on the river and it is here that Romberg's "Student Prince" is set.

The Black Forest was our next port of call in which nestle picturesque south German towns. It is here that many people come for a camping or hostelling holiday. It is well worth while.

In Switzerland it was evident that my money would not last out, but we were determined to reach Rome. Except for one day when we took a trip up into the mountains to Grindlewald, it rained most of the time. We therefore missed much of the beauty of the scenery. This made our entry into Italy all the more welcome.

Although money was short we pressed on across the north Italian plain to Milan. Speedily we reached Florence where we only had a brief stay before setting off for Rome through the innumerable mountains of central Italy.

At last we reached Rome, the eternal city. The temperature was 104°F. in the shade and the population of Rome headed for the sea in one vast exodus. It was just bearable to walk barefoot on the sands. The Mediterranean was a deep blue and gloriously warm, just right for swimming. Once back in Rome we saw the famous Coliseum, Mussolini's Terrace, where he spoke to big gatherings, and of course St. Peter's in the Vatican City.

It was now evident that I had to get out of Italy fast. I had to go a distance of almost 400 miles on approximately two shillings. We headed north to Pisa. Here my companion had enough money to sleep in the hostel but I had to sleep in the field outside. I was woken up at about five by dozens of mule-drawn carts. It was market day and I was sleeping in the market place.

We had a packet of biscuits between us and we managed to get a good lift to Geneva. We tried to reach the French border but we were stuck two miles away at Ospidalletti. For want of something to eat and somewhere to stay we cashed our French money and stayed at the hostel which was alive with ants and mosquitoes.

We were looking forward to the French Riviera as my companion had been before. We saw Monaco and the gambling house in Monte Carlo as well as Prince Ranier's palace.

I had a two pound traveller's cheque and very little French money to go a distance equal to that from Lands End to John o' Groat. I did not wish to cash my traveller's cheque, so I slept in the garden of the hostel at Lyon on our way to Paris. At Paris my friend had the fare to get home, but I didn't. I stayed in Paris four days before a ticket was 'phoned through to me.

I arrived back in good old England glad to be back, but much richer in experience.

H. STEEN, LVI.

News from the Old Boys

University Notes

DURING THE fortnight before the Easter holidays, a number of the old boys revisited the School to report progress and learn the news. A brief note only is possible here, covering all those who returned to the old haunt, and ignoring, unfortunately but necessarily, those who did not contact the Editors.

Early among the arrivals was David Guest from Nottingham, who told of reasonable general progress among the Slough contingent there, comprising Edgar Wallner and Barry Garner who left us in 1955 and Brian Thorp and Stewart Painter who, with Guest, left in 1956. Howard Phillips was another early visitor, this time from London. He has already become the secretary of the Badminton 2nd team, but assured us that he was also doing some work. From Hull, "Wagger" Elliott joined us, and waxed enthusiastic about his absorbing studies in the field of psychology. From Reading, Stan Cutts breezed in, obviously proud of his meeting with H.M. the Queen, which was featured in many national newspapers. He threatened the Editor-in-chief with litigation if anything about his getting married were printed, so I shall refrain. Jim Coward reported from Durham that he had settled in very well, and indeed the general feeling among all the old boys was one of pleasure at the satisfactory progress made both socially and academically. These emotions were, needless to say, mingled with anxiety about the forthcoming examinations.

Jim Hobbs became a regular visitor towards the end of the term, ever keen on football. At St. Mary's, Paddington, he is already in the 1st soccer XI. Another arrival from London was Ian Simmons, allegedly very worried about his examinations, though his cheerful self, ginger beard and all. The Giles twins, too, Bob and Chris, down from Manchester, were very happy with their progress, surrounded as usual with an aura of superlatives for *their* University.

These, then, were our very welcome friends. Many names are missing, however, and it is hoped that present members of the School will bear this in mind. A factual note from everybody at the time of publication of *The Swan* would be of great assistance to the Editors.

The Old Paludians

YET AGAIN I am able to report another successful year, with our sporting and social activities increasing rapidly. Dances now number about twenty each year, four being held in nine days at Christmas, surely a feat for any club. Coach trips organised by Michael James have continued to hold a steady number of supporters.

During recent weeks, Ray Bush, John Evans, Charles Varney, Brian Yeatman and Malcolm Walden have emigrated to Canada and we wish them all the very best of luck in their newly-adopted home. News trickling through at present shows that they are settling in well and it is hoped to have a full-scale report from these overseas members in the next issue.

Pope's Field Development.

This past year has seen this operation progressing most satisfactorily. By the time you read this, it is hoped that the roof will be in place on the new club-house. Thanks are due to all the members who drag themselves from bed in the very early hours of Sunday morning to help this ambitious project. It is a good thing that "Snip" Parsons has a thick hide, or members would no longer be woken up at 7.15 a.m. Many members will realise this is quite a feat after a Saturday dance.

I take this opportunity of thanking Messrs. H. Ashley, A. Nicholls, E. C. Hartley and our other suppliers for their forbearance and also Mr. Parsons, Senior, for the use of his van each week. We are also indebted to Colonel Charlier of the National Playing Fields Association for his assistance in obtaining the prompt payment of our £200 grant.

S. W. JONES, *Hon. Secretary.*

The Old Paludians Cricket Club

The 1956 season was a very enjoyable one, with some fine games, many played "between the showers". The final record was Played 31, Won 7, Lost 14, Drawn 10. The Fixture List has remained fairly constant in the last few years and it has been a great source of comfort to know that as we have been up to now a rather wandering side our old opponents are always ready to receive us at their grounds. Two games were played against our old friends of Bradenham, one on August Monday at Bradenham and the other on Whit Monday on Lascelles; the usual good time was had by all. Two matches have been arranged for the present season, the only difference being that we are playing at Bradenham on Whit Monday and at home on August Monday. It was hoped that this fixture would be played on Pope's Field but owing to circumstances beyond our control "Lascelles" will have to do. (The season's batting averages were headed by J. Osbourne and bowling by Ron Bruce.)

Season 1957 has begun fairly well with one game won and one lost. However, with a good list of fixtures to follow some fine games are assured.

The Club is still in need of more playing members and it is hoped that we shall be strengthened by the boys as they leave School. As by next season we shall have much more to offer in the way of facilities and, for the first time in our history a home ground, I am sure that sufficient support will be forthcoming to build new elevens which will become forces to be reckoned with for many miles around.

Our thanks are extended to the Headmaster for kindly allowing us the use of the School ground for some of our home matches.

E. J. GRANT, *Hon. Secretary.*

Old Paludians Hockey Club

ONCE AGAIN we are pleased to report that the Old Pals Hockey Club has enjoyed yet another very successful season. The playing strength and ability of all three elevens has been well up to the standard required to maintain our ever improving fixtures. Only 14 games were lost out of the 69 played and we hope this high standard will be maintained, and perhaps improved upon in the years to come. With the commencement of play at Taplow next season and the continued support of the boys at School, we shall soon be able to field a fourth eleven.

During the summer of 1956 the Club played its usual evening games against G.W.R. and High Wycombe, and in the winter season attended the annual Six-a-side Tournaments organised by G.W.R., Selfridges and Woking.

Colin Thompson, now a regular member of the R.A.F. and Combined Services Hockey XI's, and an established player in the England "B" XI was chosen as a reserve for the British Olympics team which went to Melbourne last autumn. Unfortunately a muscle injury prevented him playing in the actual Games.

Our 1st XI has maintained its run of success, winning 13, drawing 6 and losing only 4 of the 23 games played, with 76 goals for and 36 against. The defence was consistently sound, but unfortunately the forward line, although at times showing real promise, is still open to improvement. Martin Haisman (top scorer) and Paddy May accounted for 48 of the 76 goals scored. The team's best achievements were undoubtedly the victories over Rickmansworth and N.P.L. but unfortunately it still ran into loss of form in the New Year, due to numerous cancellations and bad playing conditions. During the season the Old Pals were again well represented in County Hockey, when Tony Stevenson, Martin Haisman, Richard Ford, Ken MacLaughlin, Paddy May and Jimmy Osbourne were invited to play for the two Bucks elevens.

The 2nd XI, now stronger than ever before, had a most enjoyable and successful season, winning 14, drawing 5 and losing 6 of the 25 matches played, with 77 goals for and 34 against. The highlights of the season were victories over Gerrards Cross and Hayes, and a draw with Hounslow, whilst Frank Melton (top scorer) had a remarkable season at centre-forward. Many of the younger members of the Club had an opportunity to play in the 2nd XI, and of these Gordon Hanson and Fred Harpley played extremely well, whilst Jimmy Osbourne, John Hughes, Michael Deuchar and Graham Holmes have retained places in the 1st Eleven.

Our 3rd XI, again consisting mainly of schoolboys, had its best-ever season, only being defeated on four occasions, when depleted in strength due to the calls made upon it by the other two teams. Of the 21 games played, ten were won and seven drawn, with 58 goals for and 34 against, and the victories over Slough and the draw with Hounslow, who have remained unbeaten for the past three seasons, were undoubtedly the best results. The enthusiasm and fine team spirit of these young players is to be admired, and is a credit to the Club.

The honour of captaining the Bucks County Boys' Eleven, who spent an enjoyable week, prior to Easter, at Seaford College, was bestowed upon Michael Cousins, crowning for him a fine year as skipper of our 3rd Eleven. With him in the team were three other schoolboys, Fred Harpley, John Wynn-Jones and Michael Deuchar. Gordon Hanson, also invited, was unfortunately unable to attend. The prestige of the County was raised when it was placed fourth, out of the twelve competing sides, having spent the previous six years in the last position.

The summer training programme will again commence in June, and will continue to be held at Lascelles Playing Fields until the end of September. All boys in the Upper School who are interested in coaching or learning to play hockey, should contact Michael Deuchar.

The Old Pals Hockey Club are once again indebted to the Headmaster and School Authorities for the privilege kindly afforded them to use the amenities of the School.

E. W. HAMBLET, *Hon. Secretary.*

The Old Paludians Football Club

The Season 1956/57 was one of our best ever. We again entered two teams in the Old Boys' League. Our 1st XI winning Division II (South) and our 2nd XI finishing runners-up in Division II (West). The Minor XI finished third in the Slough and Windsor Youth League and won the Berks and Bucks Minor Cup and the Slough and Windsor Youth League Challenge Cup.

Our 1st XI was composed mainly of the same young side as last season, and the experience which they had gained in the Division I (North) enabled them to play consistently good football throughout the season. R. Bush was skipper and he was well supported, especially by K. Hall and A. Bridges in defence and A. Rackstraw and W. Loveday in the attack. The team is looking forward to promotion next season to Division I (South).

The 2nd XI which consisted mainly of the older and more experienced playing members did well to finish runners-up in their league for the second year in succession. I. Bryant as skipper, together with J. Tebbit, R. Taylor, R. Millis and C. Varney were the mainstays of the side.

The Minor XI might well have improved their position in the league had it not been for the congestion of fixtures at the end of the season, due to their excellent cup runs. They defeated Didcot Athletic Minors 4-2 in the Berks and Bucks Minor Cup. This is the second time the club has won this trophy, the first time being in the season 1943/44. This XI has developed into a fine side and it is hoped that the team, in the main, will be unchanged for next season. C. Toogood proved a very worthy skipper and the performances of all this team deserves great praise.

We were once again grateful to the School for their assistance with regard to accommodation and to Mr. R. J. Gibbs for his training sessions on Monday evenings.

We were sorry to hear of the death of one of our founder members, S. E. Medcalf. "Meddy", as he was known, was the mainstay of the club during its early days. Although he had not been able to visit us during the last few years he had kept in touch with the club and his interest and support will be sadly missed.